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East Berks United Sanitary Districts

INCLUDING

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COOKHAM, EASTHAMPSTEAD, WINDSOR AND
WOKINGHAM RURAL DISTRICTS.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR 1956



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W. H. Lee, Printer, Wokingham.



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*To the CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS of the JOINT
COMMITTEE for the UNITED SANITARY
DISTRICTS of EAST BERKS.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the forty-sixth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the East Berks United Sanitary Districts.

The Vital Statistics are satisfactory. More babies are being born with a progressively increasing chance of survival. More and more people are living active and useful lives long after the "three score year and ten" stage which mankind once was considered lucky to reach. When cancer prevention or early cure and prevention of heart and blood vessel deterioration become as possible as prevention of tuberculosis and diseases like diphtheria, then the still fairly large group of deaths before seventy years should be reduced to the irreducible minimum—a happening which would bring happiness and comfort to countless lives, besides being of enormous value to the economy of the country. The great task of the future for all engaged in preventive medicine must be to try to prevent deaths from cancer and "diseases of the heart and circulation." A fit man or woman of 80 to 90 years should then be a common sight and not be a subject of surprise and envy, and telegrams of congratulation reserved for those who are still working in their gardens when they reach the hundredth milestone.

We have been nurtured on life and death statistics now for a very long time, and rightly so; but the presence or absence of happiness and contentment, and the degree of such, if present, are not recorded, nor the effect of happiness and contentment on health, and therefore on length of life. One can think of many contributory causes of happiness and freedom from anxiety, but I am introducing the subject in order to talk about Housing. A house of one's own, with a bathroom, with facilities for keeping food fresh and wholesome, with a garden, and some privacy to lead one's own life quietly without too much intrusion of neighbours or relatives—all this is within the reach of so many of us who are lucky. We could scarcely imagine ourselves living in any other environment. The major cause of unhappiness and discontent, however, among the people with whom I am in daily contact throughout East Berks—and therefore one of the major causes of ill-health—is the lack of a house of one's own, of living in a house which has not all the conveniences which are generally considered necessary to modern life. Not nearly enough houses are being built by Local Authorities. Scores of middle aged or elderly couples have one, two, and occasionally three, married sons or daughters who cannot get accommodation except in one or other of the "in-laws" homes; or who, in desperation, obtain rooms with

middle aged or old strangers, almost invariably getting notice to quit immediately a baby is on the way. To be able to house all young married couples who cannot afford to buy a house of their own must surely be one of the finest tasks a Local Authority can perform, and one of its greatest contributions to preventive medicine.

Some day it will be impossible to think of a house without a bathroom, an indoor water closet, a food store that is capable of keeping food fresh in all weathers, and satisfactory artificial lighting in every room. I have all these things in my own house and none of them are luxuries. Most people who will read this Report have them. I visit houses every week, however, where one or more—or all—of them are lacking. Some people are capable of rising above these disadvantages and not appearing to be any the worse for them. The majority, however, suffer to some degree or other. If one could televise a few scenes in the life of people living in a street where the conveniences I have mentioned are lacking and then place alongside the picture similar scenes from a modern Council housing estate, it would be impossible not to realise that good housing engenders good health and from good health spring liveliness, initiative and the incentive to self betterment. Bad health is not now measured by the amount of infectious disease in a poor housing district, but by the lustreless atmosphere of the place, and the weary pallor of many of the inhabitants.

I can think of no better fifty year plan for those engaged in Public Health and Preventive Medicine than:—

- (a) To build more and more houses until every family has a house of its own with all the conveniences necessary to good health.
- (b) To find means of retarding the degenerative processes until a man's arteries, at least, will be younger than himself.
- (c) To prevent cancer.

Workers in the fields of Public Health and Preventive Medicine are aiming at the same target, freedom from ill-health. In recent years an old enemy with a new name is quickly increasing and threatening to become epidemic. I refer to what are sometimes called 'anxiety states' and sometimes "stress or tension diseases." The state called "nerves" has always provided one of the commonest topics of conversation. Tension or anxiety states are now treated probably more often than any of the organic illnesses, and drugs intended to relieve them are appearing in such quantities as to cause anxiety as to the reason for their rapid multiplication. Amazingly, many people appear to get relief from

the stress symptoms which possess them, though they sometimes appear to upset some other part of the human mechanism. If the stress or tension states continues to increase, however, and drug taking to relieve them becomes fashionable as it might well do—and, in fact, is now becoming—careful research seems to be indicated to find out the causes of the anxiety states, means found to eradicate them, and counter measures taken. Adequate housing, enough money for the reasonable requirements of life, with a little over as a reserve, a possible universal 35 to 40 hour week, good use of leisure time, moderation in the use of things that tend to unbalance and push the individual off the rails, and—probably above all—personal cleanliness, fresh air, exercise, and a frequent change in the routine of life—these seem to be worthy foils to the menace of stress and strain. They would certainly defer old age and do much to chase away the ills to which we are heir.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The following table compares the number of children immunised against diphtheria in the East Berks areas in 1955 and 1956. About 75% of the infants are immunised—a splendid achievement.

			Children immunised for the first time.		Children receiving re-inforcing injections.	
			1955.	1956.	1955.	1956.
Maidenhead Borough	...	...	434	356	71	194
Wokingham Borough	...	...	95	95	27	28
Cookham Rural	...	...	154	119	34	16
Easthampstead Rural	...	...	413	427	64	37
Windsor Rural	...	...	201	234	21	26
Wokingham Rural	...	...	417	570	113	132
			<hr/> 1,714	<hr/> 1,801	<hr/> 330	<hr/> 433

FOOD POISONING.

One hundred and nineteen cases occurred during the year in the six districts, the distribution being as follows:—Maidenhead Borough 13, Wokingham Borough 5, Cookham Rural District 10, Easthampstead Rural District 82, Windsor Rural District 4, Wokingham Rural District 5.

Seventy-four of these occurred in a large institution in Easthampstead Rural District in July, due to a *Clostridium Welchii* infection of a fore-quarter (chilled) of beef which had been steamed for two hours, cooled and then braised. Seventy-one female patients and three nurses were affected, chiefly with diarrhoea and abdominal pains, the incubation period varying from 8 to 22 hours. Meat from the same fore-quarter which had been roasted and served to the male patients caused no ill-effects. I investigated this outbreak together with the Chief Public Health Inspector of Easthampstead Rural District and the Medical Director of the Public Health Laboratory Service, Reading. Mention is made of this in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector (Page 70). A comprehensive report has been written by Dr. Norman Wood on whom fell the brunt of the investigation, and he has kindly allowed me to include it in this Report (Pages 73–75).

An anaerogenic salmonella typhi-murium was responsible for an outbreak of food poisoning which occurred after a wedding reception held at an hotel in Cookham Rural District on 9th May, 1956. Eight days had elapsed before news of this outbreak began to come into the Public Health Department, and it was impossible by that time to discover the cause, though two items of food

supplied at the reception came under suspicion. The hotel had the highest possible reputation for care and cleanliness.

The first intimation of the occurrence came when a general practitioner discovered two of the male resident staff of the hotel suffering from what appeared to be dysentery and notified them as such on 16th May. He did not know of the wedding reception. Routine investigations by the Public Health Inspector on 17th May revealed that the two men—waiters—and a third—an under-chef—had all been ill with headache, abdominal pains and diarrhoea, the onset being on Friday, 11th May. Faecal samples were submitted for examination. On 18th May the first result came through that a so far unknown salmonella had been isolated from all three samples. The remaining 12 members of the hotel staff submitted faecal specimens. By 20th May the salmonella was found to be an anaerogenic typhi-murium, and only the three men who were ill were found to be positive.

It was then found that the three men had taken part either in the cooking, preparing or serving of the food used at a wedding reception on 9th May. The others, who were negative, had not taken part in the cooking or handling of the food, nor, apparently had they eaten any of it, with the exception of two of them, the head and the second chefs. Three successive stools from these two men were negative.

Close questioning elicited the fact that the three men, two waiters and the under-chef, became ill for the first time from 36 to 48 hours after the reception, and that none of them had had any previous history of intestinal upset.

One hundred and two names and addresses of persons who had attended the reception, and who came from 35 different local authority areas in England and Wales, were obtained, and the Medical Officers of Health of these areas informed of the relevant facts. When all the information had been transmitted from these sources the following conclusions were reached:—

Fifteen persons were severely infected, with symptoms lasting from seven to ten days. In two cases, who were severely ill, the diarrhoea lasted fourteen days.

Thirty-one persons were ill for from one to four days.

Forty-three persons were unaffected.

In 11 cases the results were not known.

In the first group typhi-murium were recovered from all stools.

In the second group of 31, typhi-murium were recovered from 23 cases. *Shigella sonnei* were recovered in 2 cases.

In the third group who were not ill, typhi-murium were found in 6 out of 43 cases. Two persons showed *Shigella sonnei*.

A very painstaking report from the Public Health Inspector who took part in the investigations was submitted at the time, and it is included in this Report (Pages 52 to 55). An equally careful and thoughtful report by a Public Health Inspector of Maidenhead Borough, who also took part in the investigations in so far as they concerned the Borough, is also included (Pages 24 to 28).

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

W. B. MOORE,

Medical Officer of Health.

The Wilderness,
Maidenhead.

July, 1957.

Maidenhead Municipal Borough.

STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	5,007
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Book at 31st March, 1957	...	...	...	...	...	9,087
Rateable Value, 1st April, 1957	...	...	...	...	...	£431,819
Product of a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	£1,800
Population (estimated mid-year)	...	...	...	...	...	29,520
Live Birth Rate (actual) (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	17.8
Live Birth Rate (corrected) (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	17.4
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.34
Death Rate (actual) (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	11.5
Death Rate (corrected) (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	10.3
Infant Death Rate (per 1,000 live births)	...	...	...	...	...	13.3
Tuberculosis Death Rate (per 1,000 population):						
(a) Respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	0.27
(b) Other Forms	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
(c) All Forms	...	...	...	...	...	0.27
Typhoid Fever—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Whooping Cough—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Diphtheria—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Influenza—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.11
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Pneumonia—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.44
Measles—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Maternal Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year 356 children were immunised against Diphtheria for the first time. One hundred and ninety-four children received re-inforcing injections.

MAIDENHEAD MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS.

Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	418
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Acute Poliomyelitis :							
(a) Paralytic	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
(b) Non-Paralytic	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	0

NOTIFICATIONS OF TUBERCULOSIS (and Ages).

Age Groups.				Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
				M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years	...	...		1	2	—	—
5-14	„	...	...	—	—	—	1
15-24	„	...	...	1	1	—	—
25-44	„	...	...	5	1	—	2
45-64	„	...	...	3	2	—	—
65 and over	...	...		—	—	—	—
TOTALS	...	...		10	6	—	3

MAIDENHEAD MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

CAUSES OF DEATH IN MAIDENHEAD BOROUGH, 1956.

CAUSES OF DEATH.					Male	Female.
ALL CAUSES.					165	177
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	6	1
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	3	—
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—
5.	Whooping cough	...	...	...	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	...	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	—	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	3	7
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	14	2
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	—	5
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	—	3
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	20	14
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	2	—
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	1	2
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	20	35
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	24	23
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	1	3
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	15	43
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	6	6
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	3	1
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	10	3
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	9	2
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	2	—
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	3	—
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	—	3
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	—	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	1	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	—	1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	13	15
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	1	1
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	4	5
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	4	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	—	—

REPORT OF THE BOROUGH ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The long awaited extensions to the Maidenhead Sewage Disposal Works are now nearing completion. The first part comprising two additional dortmund type settlement tanks, four percolating filters and two circular humus tanks fitted with scraper gear was brought into operation in April, 1956.

The second portion comprising new storm water tanks, storm overflow weirs, conversion of old settlement tanks to cold sludge

MAIDENHEAD MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

digestion tanks and other ancilliary works will be completed early in August, 1957.

The Works will then have a design capacity of 1,036,000 gallons per day, but it is hoped that for some time it will be capable of dealing satisfactorily with the flow which is now averaging 1,257,000 gallons per day.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The incentive bonus scheme introduced to overcome the difficulty of recruiting and retaining labour for this service has proved very successful, not only in that direction but in maintaining a regular weekly collection of all house refuse. This accompanied by a drive to ensure that every house has a satisfactory dustbin has resulted in a greatly improved refuse collection service.

Greater difficulty is experienced in ensuring adequate control at the refuse tip, but some considerable improvement has been achieved there also. The main tip has now been temporarily closed, and tipping is now proceeding to level land which will ultimately be used as playing fields.

Steps are taken to control both rats and flies, but considerable trouble is experienced from large flocks of rooks which seriously disturb recently covered tip faces.

C. T. READ,

Engineer and Surveyor.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

I have pleasure in presenting the report on the work carried out during the year 1956.

Summary of Inspections:

Complaints received and given attention	...	...	506
Dairies and Milk Distributors' Premises	...	...	88
Pasteurising Plants	...	...	36
Milk delivery vehicles	...	...	81
Bakehouses	...	...	54
Ice Cream premises	...	...	146
Other Food premises	...	...	629
Food Hygiene	...	...	799
Public Health (Meat) Regulations	...	...	116
Meat Transport Vehicles	...	...	31
Food Inspection	...	...	345
Water Supplies	...	...	56
Hairdressers' and Barbers' premises	...	...	9

MAIDENHEAD MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

Housing	1,546
Underground Rooms	17
Moveable Dwellings	3,409
Common Lodging House	8
Infectious Disease	362
Smoke Abatement	29
Swimming Pools	5
Factories with Mechanical Power	258
Factories without Mechanical Power	36
Building Operations	26
Shops Act (including hours of closing and Sunday trading)	979
Cinemas	6
Rag Flock and Filling Materials	10
Heating Appliances	1
Knacker's Yard	5
Pig Sties and Poultry Runs	35
Pet Shops	41
Drainage Inspections	547
Cesspools	110
Sewage Works	18
Refuse Tips	142
Public Conveniences	26
Streams	4
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	306
Other Visits and Re-Visits	1,062
Land Charges Enquiries	778
National Assistant Act	21
Market	50

Notices :

No. of informal notices served during the year	244
No. of informal notices outstanding from 1954	78
No. of informal notices complied with during the year	248
No. of informal notices outstanding at the end of the year	48
No. of formal notices served during the year	26
No. of formal notices outstanding from 1954	31

MAIDENHEAD MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

No. of formal notices complied with during the year ...	49
No. of formal notices outstanding at the end of the year	8
Work carried out by Local Authority in default ...	Nil.

WATER SUPPLIES.

During the year 16 samples of water were submitted for bacteriological examination and 5 samples for chemical analysis, all except one of which were satisfactory.

The unsatisfactory sample was taken from a pump on land on which a fete was to be held; this supply was replaced by a main supply and stand pipe.

HOUSING.

The Clearance Order made in respect of 52 back to back houses at Garden Cottages, which was the subject of a Public Enquiry in July, 1955, was subsequently confirmed in November, 1956, without modification. The Minister made a direction in accordance with section 42 of the Housing Act, 1936 and subject to the provisions of section 3 (4) of the Slum Clearance (Compensation) Act, 1956, that a payment under that section should be made in respect of six well maintained houses.

The Minister has approved the Council's proposals for dealing with 303 unfit houses under the five years programme.

No Certificate of disrepair has been issued during the year under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

There was again a small decrease in the total number of caravans stationed and in use in the Borough compared with the previous year as the following table indicates.

Fluctuation in the numbers of individual caravans are almost solely accounted for by the temporary stationing and use of caravans on building plots.

The Council has not yet succeeded in obtaining the requisite authority to proceed with their final extension of the Brownfield Gardens site. It is considered unfortunate, particularly having regard to the large number of applicants for sites who live or work in Maidenhead, that permission to proceed with the work was not forthcoming during the year.

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	31st December, 1956	31st December, 1955
	No. of Caravans.	No. of Caravans.
Council Sites :		
Tyrrells Buidings	1	4
Blenheim Road	18	18
Brownfield Gardens	52	52
Three Private Sites	5	5
	—	1
	—	2
Individual Caravans	21	21
Totals	97	103

MILK AND DAIRIES.

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 :

No. of Premises used as Dairies	1
No. of Distributors of Milk	31

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk)
Regulations, 1949 to 1954:

Dealers' Licences—Tuberculin Tested Milk ...	18
Supplementary Licences—Tuberculin Tested Milk	2

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised
Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1953:

Dealers' Pasteurisers Licences	1
Dealers' Licences—Pasteurised Milk	17
Supplementary Licences—Pasteurised Milk ...	3
Dealers' Licences—Sterilised Milk	16
Supplementary Licences—Sterilised Milk	2

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK SAMPLES.

MAIDENHEAD MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

Designation of Milk.	Total Samples Submitted	Methylene Blue Test		Test Void	Phosphatase Test		Turbidity Test	
		Passed	Failed		Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed
Tuberculin Tested Milk (School Milk)	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised) (Excluding School Milk) ...	88	60	-	28	88	-	-	-
Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised) (School Milk) ...	9	7	-	2	8	1	-	-
Pasteurised Milk (Excluding School Milk)	58	43	-	15	57	1	-	-
Pasteurised Milk (School Milk) ...	33	26	-	7	33	-	-	-
Sterilised Milk ...	9	-	-	-	-	-	8	1

The sample of Pasteurised milk which failed to satisfy the Phosphatase Test was pasteurised and bottled at a local dairy. The processing and bottling of the milk were thoroughly checked, but the failure could not be attributed to any inefficiency of the pasteurising plant. All samples taken subsequently were satisfactory.

The samples of Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised) (School Milk) and Sterilized milk which were also shown to be unsatisfactory as regards heat treatment, were processed and bottled at establishments outside the Borough, and in these cases the appropriate licensing authorities were notified. Subsequent samples from the same supplies were satisfactory.

ICE CREAM.

Number of Registered Premises:

(a)	For Manufacture	...	...	...	...	2
(b)	For Sale	...	...	...	...	91

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF
ICE CREAM SAMPLES.

Eighty-three routine samples of ice cream were taken during the year from registered premises in the Borough. All samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory in Reading.

The results obtained from these eighty-three routine samples are given in Table I below.

Table II indicates the comparative results over the last four years with the totals falling into Provisional Grades 1 and 2 given as percentages.

Table I.

Public Health Laboratory Service Gradings—1956				
Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Total
75	8	—	—	83

Table II.

Year	No. of Samples.	Public Health Laboratory Service Grading				Percentage of Total Samples falling into Grades 1 and 2.
		1	2	3	4	
1953	78	7	64	3	4	88.5%
1954	83	67	16	Nil	Nil	100%
1955	85	67	15	1	2	96.5%
1956	83	75	8	Nil	Nil	100%

The number of premises registered for the sale of Ice Cream increased by three during the year.

REGISTERED FOOD PREMISES.

Routine Inspections of the 93 ice cream premises and the 24 other food premises registered for the preparation of meat products have been made during the year and, in general, the standard maintained has been very satisfactory.

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FOOD HYGIENE.

The occupiers of food premises have in general co-operated in implementing the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 which came into operation during the year.

Much discussion has arisen over the requirements of the regulations, particularly the provision of separate facilities for hand washing, but the personal approach made by the Public Health Inspectors, who have explained the reasons for the various requirements, has resulted in willing compliance in almost all cases.

Many food traders have voluntarily made improvements additional to the requirements of the regulations and the general standard is becoming progressively higher.

FOOD INSPECTION AND UNSOUND FOOD.

The following table gives the amount of foodstuffs condemned and disposed of as unfit for human consumption:—

Beef	...	...	...	...	...	...	327 lbs.
Butter	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 lbs.
Cake	...	...	...	...	...	...	27 lbs.
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	...	5 lbs.
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	...	98 lbs.
Frozen Egg	...	...	...	...	...	...	112 lbs.
Ham	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 lbs.
Margarine	...	...	...	...	...	...	31 lbs.
Pork Offal	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 lbs.
Prunes	...	...	...	...	...	...	60 lbs.
Shellfish	...	...	...	...	...	...	32 lbs.
Walnuts	...	...	...	...	...	...	504 lbs.
Various Foods	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,554 Tins.
Various Foods	...	...	...	...	...	...	618 Pkts.
Various Foods	...	...	...	...	...	...	130 Jars.
Various Foods	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 Botts.

Unsound food is disposed of at the Council's refuse tip.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

One hundred and twelve samples of food and drugs were procured during the year, details of which are given in the following table:—

Article	Formal		Informal	
	Number of Samples	Number Adulterated	Number of Samples	Number Adulterated
Apricots (Tinned) ...	—	—	1	—
Arrowroot	1	—	—	—
Blackcurrant Conserve	1	—	—	—
Brandy	1	1	—	—
Butter	2	—	—	—
Cake Darkening ...	—	—	1	—
Camphorated Oil ...	1	—	—	—
Chocolates	—	—	1	—
Coffee	—	—	1	—
Coffee and Chicory	—	—	—	—
Mixture	1	—	—	—
Curry Powder	1	—	—	—
Desiccated Coconut ...	1	—	—	—
Gelatine	1	—	—	—
Gin	1	—	—	—
Ground White Pepper	2	—	1	—
Ice Cream	4	—	—	—
Ice Lollies	—	—	3	—
Lemon Juice	1	—	—	—
Liver Sausage	1	—	—	—
Marzipan	2	—	—	—
Meat Paste	—	—	1	—
Milk	61	—	6	—
Milk Beverage	1	—	—	—
Mincemeat	1	—	—	—
Red Plum Jam	1	—	—	—
Self Raising Flour ...	1	—	1	—
Soup	1	—	1	—
Soya Flour	1	—	—	—
Sweets	1	—	1	—
Table Jelly	1	—	—	—
Tomato Juice	—	—	1	—
Whisky	3	—	—	—
	93	1	19	—

MAIDENHEAD MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

The sample of brandy reported as being adulterated was stated by the Public Analyst to contain 1.7% of added water. After considering the Analyst's report it was decided not to institute legal proceedings in this case, but to issue a warning.

DISINFECTION.

The steam disinfection of bedding and clothing is undertaken at Maidenhead Isolation Hospital by arrangement with the Windsor Group Hospital Management Committee.

Disinfection of 38 rooms was carried out by the Health Department staff.

DISINFESTATION OF PREMISES:

Verminous Rooms	...	...	...	...	...	38
Insect Pests	...	...	...	...	...	52

RODENT CONTROL.

The rodent control staff consists of a part-time operator and a General Assistant in the Health Department who is engaged part-time on rodent control.

The number of treatments carried out was greater than in the previous year, but the total number of rats and mice would appear to be decreasing. This is in no small measure due to systematic survey and treatment in the initial stages of infestation.

The success of the permanent baiting containers at the Council's refuse tip has been maintained, and the tip has continued to remain free of rats.

The sewers were not treated this year in view of the exemption from the 10% test until April 1957, granted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Co-operation with the Divisional Rodent Officer and his staff has been maintained.

Details of the work carried out during the year are submitted below:—

Premises visited on complaint	...	...	...	...	313
Premises visited on survey	...	...	...	...	1,579
Number of treatments carried out	...	...	...	...	412

MAIDENHEAD MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

ADMINISTRATION OF FACTORIES ACT (1937).

1. INSPECTIONS MADE BY PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS.

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
			Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	1	24	36	2	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	2	185	258	13	—
(iii) Other Premises under the Act (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	3	10	20	—	—
TOTAL		219	314	15	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	No. of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosec'tns were instituted (7)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	To H.M. Insp'tor (5)	Referred By H.M. Insp'tor (6)	
Want of cleanliness ...	4	3	3	—	1	—
Overcrowding	5	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	6	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	7	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	8	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences						
(a) Insufficient ...	9	2	2	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	12	11	—	3	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Homework	12	2	2	—	—	—
TOTAL	60	19	18	—	4	—

MAIDENHEAD MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

PART VIII OF THE ACT.
OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111).

Nature of Work	M/c line No.	Section 110			Section 111		
		No. of out- workers in August list req'd by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises	Not- ices serv- ed	Pro- secu- t'ns
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Wearing apparel : Making, etc. ...	13	33	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL . .	70	33	—	—	—	—	—

INADEQUATE MEANS OF ESCAPE IN CASE OF FIRE.

Discovered	...	...	...	3
Remedied	...	...	...	3

RAG FLOCK.

Three premises are registered under Section 2 of the Rag Flock and other Filling Materials Act, 1951, all of which are small factories in which upholstered furniture is made.

A formal sample of unused cotton mill puffs was taken at one of these premises and the sample was found on analysis to be of a satisfactory standard.

STAFF.

Although repeated efforts have been made to obtain the services of an Additional Public Health Inspector, great difficulty has been experienced and the post remains unfilled.

Efforts have also been made to obtain a salaried student to train for the Public Health Inspectors' qualifications, but no school leavers or other trainees have been attracted to this appointment.

In conclusion I wish to thank all members of the staff for their loyal support and valuable assistance with the many and varied duties of the Health Department, and to record an appreciation of their work.

F. G. BISHOP,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

REPORT ON INVESTIGATIONS INTO A FOOD POISONING
INCIDENT AFFECTING THREE FAMILY GROUPS
IN MAIDENHEAD — MAY, 1956

This report deals with seven cases of *Salmonella Typhimurium* investigated in three separate households in Maidenhead, arising out of a major incident centred in an Hotel in the Cookham Rural District. There is no evidence to suggest that any of these cases originated from a source within the Borough, nor to suggest that there was any spread of the infection within, or from, the affected households.

This report is therefore intended to supplement the broader picture presented by the main outbreak which has been reported upon elsewhere.

The details relating to the three family units at risk within the Borough were as follow:—

- (a) Family X:—Mr. X.—Waiter at “Hotel Splendide.”
Mrs. X.
Boy X.—Aged 2 years.
Girl X.—Aged 3½ years.

Mr. X. was notified as a case of dysentery on 16th May, 1956. A specimen submitted on 17th May was found to be negative for *Salmonella Typhimurium*. Mr. X. had, however, experienced symptoms of food poisoning on and after 11th May.

Specimens submitted on 17th May from the other three members of this family were all positive for *Salmonella Typhimurium*. In each case, symptoms had developed on 11th May although in a comparatively mild form.

- (b) Family Y:—Mr. Y.—Waiter at “Hotel Splendide.”
Mrs. Y.
Girl Y.—Aged 8 years.
Boy Y.—Aged 1 year.

Mr. Y. submitted a negative specimen from the hotel on 18th May, 1956. He had experienced no symptoms akin to food poisoning.

Subsequent investigations carried out at the family's Maidenhead address revealed that Mrs. Y. and her daughter had developed severe symptoms late on 10th and early 11th May and had called in a private doctor who had prescribed treatment by telephone.

Specimens were submitted from the Maidenhead Public Health Department on 22nd May. Those from Mrs. Y. and Boy Y. were negative, but that from Girl Y. was positive for *Salmonella Typhimurium*.

MAIDENHEAD MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

In view of the severe symptoms of food poisoning experienced by Mrs. Y. on 10th to 11th May it seems reasonable to presume that she was an initial positive.

(c) Family Z.—Mr. Z.—Chef at “Hotel Splendide.”

The above was notified by his private doctor as suffering from “Salmonella Food Poisoning.” The notification was received on Saturday, 19th May, and was apparently based on the result of a specimen submitted by the patient whilst still at the “Hotel Splendide.”

The initial symptoms in this case developed on Sunday, 13th May, 1956. The patient was most specific about the actual date of onset.

At the time investigations were made at households X and Z it was known that investigations were proceeding at the “Hotel Splendide” in connection with an outbreak of food poisoning. Information relating to the other Maidenhead household at risk was not available at this stage.

In the case of Household X the significance of the fact that symptoms developed in each member of the household at approximately the same time was appreciated, indicating as it did, a simultaneous infection rather than secondary infection within the household.

It was also appreciated at the outset that staff in hotels are sometimes permitted to bring home surplus food.

The initial enquiries revealed that this had in fact happened in the case of household X following a wedding reception at the hotel on 9th May, 1956.

From enquiries made on 19th May it appeared that the following food was brought home after the wedding reception and consumed by the family, i.e. household X:—

Egg sandwiches.

Tongue sandwiches.

Liver sausage rolls. (This description really related to bridge rolls and liver paté).

Prawn vol-au-vents.

Mr. X. ate none of the above at the time. Mrs. X. ate no egg sandwiches. Boy and Girl X. ate some of everything, but mostly egg.

Enquiries at household Z on 19th May confirmed that a number of the staff at the hotel had taken food home after the wedding reception although Mr. Z. (one of the chefs) had not done so, nor had he eaten any part of the wedding food at the

time. Mr. Z. was not sure whether or not he ate something from the residue of this reception subsequently, but it would appear either that he did, or, that his was a secondary infection at the hotel.

Enquiries at household Y were made on 22nd May, 1956, as soon as information was received that the family was resident in the Borough. The enquiries confirmed that food served at the wedding reception was the source of the infection in this household. The food brought home from the reception consisted of the following:—

Liver sausage rolls. (This description related to bridge rolls and liver paté).
Prawn vol-au-vents.
Egg sandwiches.
Sausage rolls.

The Boy Y, aged 1 year, ate only bread from the egg sandwiches and subsequently had no illness or upset whatsoever. Mr. Y. had nothing either at home or at the reception, apart from champagne and he, too, developed no symptoms whatsoever. Mrs. Y. and her daughter ate something of everything.

It was noted that the “common” foods consumed in both households X and Y by those affected were:—

Liver sausage rolls.
Prawn vol-au-vents.

The term “liver sausage” was really a loose description for what was, in effect, a liver paté. No liver “sausage” as such was served at the wedding reception.

Detailed enquiries in connection with these particular items of food disclosed the following:—

- (a) **Liver Paté.** This was made at the hotel, the basis consisting of the livers of chickens which were dressed at the hotel kitchen.

The livers were washed, placed in a tray with chopped onion, bay leaves, thyme, salt and pepper and put in the oven to cook. The preparation was then taken from the oven cooled and passed through a fine mincer. The mince was then put into a mixing bowl and beaten up by a mechanical beater. During this operation, artificial cream and red wine were added until the required consistence was obtained. The paté was then ready to use. This preparation is fairly standard in the catering trade.

- (b) **Prawn Vol-au-vents.** This preparation had a basis of prawn dressed with mayonnaise. The mayonnaise was

made at the hotel and prepared in the usual manner from egg yoke and nut oil. The filling was then introduced into bouchees and served.

These recipes appeared to open up a most interesting line of enquiry and begged for further investigation. Both chicken (c.p. chicken liver pat ) and bouchees (c.p. prawn vol-au-vents) had been used, for example, in the preparation of chicken vol-au-vents which were served at the wedding reception and these had obviously been popular as none was available for the staff to take home afterwards. The recipe was as follows:—

- (c) **Chicken Vol-au-vents.** The remainder of the vol-au-vent casing had a chicken filling which was made as follows:—

A sauce was prepared from white fat, flour and milk. The ingredients were mixed, cooked and stored in a refrigerator until required for use. It is normal practice for this sauce base to be prepared beforehand and finally prepared for use as required. When needed on this particular occasion, the sauce was mixed with chopped chicken together with artificial cream in a bowl. As the quantity required was (and usually is) rather small, the mixing was done by hand. The mixture was then filled into the vol-au-vent casings or bouchees.

It will be noted that the chicken was chopped, that mixing was by hand **not** by mechanical mixer and that the only equipment was a knife and a mixing bowl. Consistence and texture, however, were largely given by the addition of artificial cream.

In an enquiry of this nature the investigator should always follow the signposts and avoid the short cuts. Conclusions must be based on fact and supported by reason.

There was no reason at this stage why any more significance should have been attached to the use of artificial cream as against certain other ingredients or constituents (e.g. bouchees). Access to available information in relation to other cases however revealed that bouchees, with their variety of fillings, had not been eaten by all, nor had liver pat . But enquiries confirmed, on the other hand, that artificial cream was used at the wedding reception in a wide variety of other foodstuffs including sweets, such as trifles, and also for decorative purposes on flour confectionery.

Artificial cream used at the "Hotel Splendide" was contained in one-gallon cans. A can normally lasted about a week and cans were kept in refrigerator. So far as the wedding reception preparations were concerned, however, my information indicated that almost a whole can was used for one purpose or another.

Conclusions. It is suggested that the following conclusions may be taken from the Maidenhead investigations.

- (a) The source of infection was common to the three households.
- (b) The dates of onset indicated a primary infection in six of the seven cases.
- (c) The infection was introduced by food stuff brought into the homes after a wedding reception at the "Hotel Splendide."
- (d) The organism was present in one or other of the food brought home.
- (e) It is reasonable to assume that in an outbreak such as this there must have been a heavy, well distributed initial infection and it is difficult to attribute this to a food handler or even to one particular type of food. It is suggested here, that in the absence of any evidence to the contrary brought out during the course of investigations into the major incident, the infection was spread in artificial cream. Artificial cream was distributed throughout a high percentage of the foodstuffs consumed and the element of choice which variety presented did not, therefore, tend to reduce the risk of infection, but rather to aggravate it !

Whilst this theme could have been elaborated and developed to take in the total picture, it would obviously have been beyond the scope of the Maidenhead investigations to have done so. To this extent, therefore, this report, although factual and objective, is somewhat restricted in its scope. It is felt, however, that its conclusions subsequently withstood the test of vigorous argument and discussion.

A. D. M. JONES,

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector,

Maidenhead Borough.

May, 1956.

Wokingham

Municipal Borough.

STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	3,404
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Book at end of 1956	2,493
Rateable Value, 1st April, 1957	£127,315
Product of a Penny Rate	£545
Population (estimated mid-year)	9,700
Live Birth Rate (actual) (per 1,000 population) ...	13.3
Live Birth Rate (corrected) (per 1,000 population) ...	14.2 14.2
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	0.10
Death Rate (actual) (per 1,000 population)	13.7
Death Rate (corrected) (per 1,000 population)	9.6
Infant Death Rate (per 1,000 live births)	7.7
Tuberculosis Death Rate (per 1,000 population):	
(a) Respiratory	0.1
(b) Other Forms	0.0
(c) All Forms	0.1
Typhoid Fever—Death Rate (per 1,000 population) ...	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	0.00
Whooping Cough—Death Rate (per 1,000 population) ...	0.00
Diphtheria—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	0.00
Influenza—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	0.20
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	0.00
Pneumonia—Death Rate (per 1,000 population) ...	0.72
Measles—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	0.00
Maternal Deaths	Nil.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year 95 children were immunised against Diphtheria for the first time. Twenty-eight children received reinforcing injections.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS.

Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Acute Poliomyelitis :							
(a) Paralytic	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
(b) Non-paralytic	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	10

NOTIFICATIONS OF TUBERCULOSIS (and ages).

Age Groups.				Pulmonary.		Non-pulmonary.	
				M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
5-14 years	...	...	...	1	—	—	—
15-24	„	...	...	—	—	—	—
25-44	„	...	...	2	—	—	—
45-64	„	...	...	—	—	—	—
65 and over	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
TOTALS				3	—	—	—

WOKINGHAM MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

CAUSES OF DEATH IN WOKINGHAM BOROUGH, 1956.

CAUSES OF DEATH.					Male.	Female.
ALL CAUSES.					70	63
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	1	—
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—
5.	Whooping cough	...	...	...	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	...	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	—	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	—	3
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	6	—
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	—	3
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	—	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	6	3
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	—	—
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	1	—
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	5	15
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	14	7
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	2	—
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	8	10
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	5	3
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	2	—
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	4	3
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	3	2
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	2	—
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	2	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	—	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	—	—
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	1	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	—	—
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	3	9
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	2	1
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	3	1
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	—	—
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	—	—

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

I have the honour to present my report of work carried out during the year 1956.

The Technical Staff of the department is as follows:—

Public Health Inspector & Surveyor—

E. F. Pressey appointed 1/1/45.
Relinquished post of Public Health Inspector 31/3/56

Additional Sanitary Inspector—

R. G. Hopkins appointed 1/3/53.
Appointed Public Health Inspector ... 1/4/56.

Rodent Officer (part time)—

J. F. Carr appointed 11/10/48.

The most noteworthy feature of 1956 was the Council's decision to separate the Health Department from that of the Borough Surveyor. The only regrettable feature in this connection was the failure of the Council to appoint separate clerical assistance for the new department.

Housing was the priority in the programme of work. In the general survey of the district for unfit houses as required by the Housing Repairs & Rents Act 1954, 252 houses were declared by the Council to be dealt with in five years. During the first year of action under this policy over 50 houses were dealt with under the provision of this Housing Act.

The Public cleansing service has continued to work smoothly. A new refuse collection vehicle and a bulldozer were put to service. A weekly collection of household refuse has been maintained.

WATER SUPPLY.

Number of visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Number of Water Samples taken (together with samples from Martins Swimming Pool)	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
Number of existing premises connected to main water supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

The water supplied to the Borough by the Mid Wessex Company has continued to be adequate and wholesome. There are still 18 properties not having a main water supply.

Most of these properties are situated in Highland Avenue and ironically are within a few hundred yards of a reservoir owned by the Wokingham Rural District Council. This Council, owing to the difficulty of sufficiency of supply, are unable to help in this matter, so protracted negotiations took place between the Water Company and the owners of the properties throughout the year without any satisfactory results.

A well supplying 2 cottages in an outlying part of the town was found to be unsatisfactory after sampling. For the last three months of the year the Council supplied drinking water to these cottages by tank. Negotiations with the owners for the installation of main water were not completed during the year.

3,269 dwellinghouses are supplied with water direct from public mains.

DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE.

Number of samples of trade effluent taken	...	...	...	3
Number of samples of effluent from Ashridge Sewage Works				3

WOKINGHAM MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

All the samples of effluent taken were classed as satisfactory.

No further trouble was experienced on the rising sewage main to Toutley which had been renewed during 1955.

The legal formalities for the sewerage of Chestnut Avenue under the provisions of the Private Street Works Acts were completed. Several residents appealed to the Court regarding the Council's requirements, but the Court found for the Council.

It has been found necessary during the year to draw attention to the impending inadequacy of the sewerage and sewage disposal system of the Borough. The increased rate of building since the war has thrown an increasing strain on the works, which are now working to the design flows.

The Council has therefore decided in view of the revision of the Town Development map in 1958, which will probably release further land for development, to consider the position, and in the first instance has engaged a consulting engineer to report on necessary extensions.

Number of informal notices served re existing domestic drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Number of formal notices under Public Health Act, 1936 and Berkshire County Council Act 1953	...						11
Work done by L.A. in default	...	...	...				5

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

A new refuse collection vehicle and a bulldozer were put into service during the year. Complaints of flies from the tip were received, but not so serious as in previous years. Whether this was due to improved tipping procedure with the help of the bulldozer, or the bad weather existing during the summer months, is a point yet to be proved. Constant spraying with disinfectants was carried out during warm weather.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Of the 3,287 properties in the Borough, 67 have earth closets and 151 cesspools. The number of cesspools will be considerably reduced when the main sewer in Chestnut Avenue is completed.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS.

NOTICES.

No. of informal notices served during the year	...					43
No. of informal notices complied with during the year						39
No. of formal notices served during the year	...	...				12
No. of formal notices complied with during the year	...					14
Legal proceedings	...	...	...	...	...	1
Work done by Local Authority in default	...	...				Nil.

COMPLAINTS.

No. received during the year 43

HOUSING.

As a result of the survey required by Section 1 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, 252 houses were reported to the Minister as being unfit for habitation.

A total of 22 Official Representations were submitted and received by the Local Authority. As a result of these, together with the Official Representations received at the close of 1955, 8 Closing Orders were confirmed and 4 Undertakings not to re-let were accepted by the Council. In some cases work was commenced on houses which had been represented before the legal machinery had been completed. A pair of semi-detached cottages was in the process of being converted into 1 dwelling and a block of 10 cottages is being converted into a guest house.

These matters together with the fact that 16 represented houses are Council owned accounts for the discrepancy in the figures for the years 1955/56 between the dwellings represented and demolition or closing orders, etc. confirmed.

No houses were demolished during the year under review.

An interesting feature of housing was the attitude of tenants to the inspecting officers. If the tenant was on the Council's waiting list the officers were welcomed, but if the tenant was not on the waiting list one could even say that in some cases the officers met with hostility. Although in conversation such tenants agreed that the amenities provided in the new Council houses were something to look forward to, the question of the increased rents was always in their minds. To someone who had never paid more than 10/- per week inclusive, the jump to the Council rents of 30/- to 35/- was prodigious. A further objection raised by persons living in the centre of the town was the distance of the new houses from the town centre.

A total of 20 families were re-housed by the Council during the year, and 3 tenants of officially represented properties found their own accommodation. One tenant purchased his house and was re-conditioning it at the end of the year.

14 preliminary notices and 19 statutory notices under the provisions of Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936, were served and as a result 12 properties were rendered fit for human habitation. This is in addition, of course, to similar work under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936. Under this latter head 12 houses were made fit.

WOKINGHAM MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

Fifty eight new houses of Cornish Unit design were completed by the Council giving a total of four hundred and sixty nine since the war.

Eighty eight houses were completed by private enterprise, giving a grand total of three hundred and thirty eight since the war.

No cases of overcrowding were reported during the year.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

No. of inspections of tents, vans and sheds	...	...	25
No. of applications to station caravans	...	...	11
No. of applicants granted temporary licences	...	...	11

FOOD INSPECTION.

Most of the butchers' meat supplied to the district comes from Reading. There are no slaughterhouses within the district.

The relationship with shopkeepers, canteen managers, etc., has been most cordial. It is true to say that most of the foodstuffs condemned have been as a result of requests to examine doubtful stock. In no case was it necessary to resort to legal proceedings.

Cooked Ham	...	...	...	...	...	32 lbs.
Tinned Veal	...	...	...	...	...	6 lbs.
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	3 lbs.
Corned Beef	...	...	...	...	...	6 lbs.
Sausage	...	...	...	...	...	30 lbs.
Fowl	...	...	...	...	...	5 lbs.
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	202 lbs.
Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	190 lbs.
Bacon	...	...	...	...	...	11 lbs.
Cakes	...	...	...	...	...	54
Steak	...	...	...	...	...	1 tin.
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	6 tins.
Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	53 tins.
Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	21 tins.
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	8 tins.

All food condemned is disposed of at the Council's refuse tip.

FOOD PREMISES.

Number of Food Premises, by type of business in district at the end of year:—

Type of Business	Number.
General Grocers and Provision Dealers	43
Greengrocers and Fruit	6
Fishmongers	2
Butchers' Shops	6
Bakers and Confectioners	8
Fried Fish Shops	3
Sugar Confectionery, etc.	8
Licensed Premises, Clubs, Restaurants, Cafés, Snack Bars, etc.	33
Off Licences	5

All food premises were visited at least twice during the year. In all 295 inspections were made for this purpose. The standard of cleanliness was generally satisfactory and it is pleasing to note that there has been a marked improvement, not only in cleanliness but also in the attitude of the persons concerned. They are at last realising that the general public are becoming "clean food" conscious and it is only by maintaining a high standard of cleanliness that they can hope to keep the goodwill of their customers. In many cases new fittings have been installed and premises improved so as to comply with modern standards and hygiene.

The following table shows the details for which it was necessary to serve informal notices during the year:—

Want of cleanliness	4
Supply of hot water	1
Soap and towels	5
Decorating	7
Structural Defects	3
Bins	7
Defective W.C.	2
Insufficient protection of food	9
Miscellaneous	17

MILK & DAIRIES.

All milk sold in the Borough was sold under special designations.

The following table gives details of samples of milk sent for examination to the Public Health Laboratory:—

WOKINGHAM MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

		Number of Samples.	Number Satisfactory.
Biological (Tuberculosis)	...	2	2
Methylene Blue	... ..	3	3
Phosphatase Test	... ..	3	2

Number of registered distributors operating from:—

(a) Dairies in the district	... ..	3
(b) Shops in the district other than dairies	... ..	4
(c) Premises outside the district	... ..	2

The following licences were issued during the year:—

Tuberculin Tested	... ..	Dealers	... ..	4
Pasteurised	... ..	Supplementary	... ..	2
		Dealers	... ..	3
Sterilised	... ..	Supplementary	... ..	2
		Dealers	... ..	5

SHOPS ACT, 1952.

The Council is a Shops Act authority within the meaning of the Act and is responsible for the health and comfort of shop assistants and closing hours.

The provisions of the Act are fairly well complied with especially by the multiple shops. There is still a fair amount of illegal Sunday trading which is very difficult to eradicate.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

12 visits were paid in connection with infectious disease and food poisoning and 4 disinfections carried out.

DISINFESTATIONS.

8 visits were made to verminous houses and disinfestation work was carried out at 17 premises including one factory.

RODENT CONTROL.

The Wokingham Joint Rodent Control Committee functioned satisfactorily throughout the year. The staff consists of one rodent control officer and one operative.

The total number of visits carried out in the Borough for 1956 is as follows:—

Complaints received	... ..	130
Premises inspected	... ..	2,120
Premises re-inspected	... ..	580
Premises found infested	... ..	256
Premises treated	... ..	313
Premises cleared	... ..	266
Premises treated for Mice Infestation	... ..	95

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

1. INSPECTIONS MADE BY PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
			Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	1	5	6	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	2	59	46	5	—
(iii) Other Premises under the Act (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	3	19	17	1	—
TOTAL		83	69	7	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	No. of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosec't'ns were instituted (7)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	To H.M. Insp'tor (5)	By H.M. Insp'tor (6)	
Want of cleanliness ...	4	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	5	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable tempera- ture	6	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	7	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	8	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences						
(a) Insufficient ...	9	1	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	6	6	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not in- cluding offences re- lating to Homework	12	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	60	7	7	—	—	—

WOKINGHAM MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

OUTWORK (SECTIONS 110 and 111).

<i>Nature of Work</i>	<i>M/c line No.</i>	<i>Section 110</i>			<i>Section 111</i>		
		<i>No. of out- workers in August list req'd by Sect. 110 (1) (c)</i>	<i>No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council</i>	<i>No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists</i>	<i>No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises</i>	<i>Not- ices serv- ed</i>	<i>Pro- secu- t'ns</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Wearing apparel : Making, etc. ...	13	6	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	70	6	—	—	—	—	—

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are no offensive trades established within the Borough.

KNACKERS YARD.

The knackers yard in Molly Millars Lane has operated satisfactorily throughout the year.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

Martins Swimming Pool which is owned by the Borough Council operated throughout the summer. Three samples of water have been taken from different points each week while open. As in previous years the samples were generally satisfactory except perhaps during occasional peak periods. The water is treated by pressure filtration and chlorination with additional applications of chlorine by hand when the need arises.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The supervision of rivers and streams has continued and measures taken as required to prevent their pollution.

WOKINGHAM MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

RAINFALL AT WOKINGHAM, 1956.

Month	Depth in Inches.	Greatest Fall in 24 hours. Depth in inches.	Date	No. of days with .01ins. or more.	No. of days with 0.4ins. or more.
January	3.39	.63	30th	24	15
February ... ..	.20	.04	6th	8	2
		.04	20th		
March ... ..	.60	.23	3rd	10	4
April	1.92	.58	20th	11	8
May ... ..	.24	.14	9th	5	2
June	2.68	.70	21st	14	11
July	3.55	1.45	19th	13	8
August	4.69	.60	27th	23	18
September	2.58	.56	4th	13	10
October	2.66	1.62	1st	13	8
November ... ..	.66	.17	8th	13	8
December	3.74	.72	15th	24	15
	26.91			171	109

Average of 56 years :

25.26 inches.

167.80 days with 0.1 inches or more.

S U M M A R Y .

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS :

Meat Transport Vehicles	...	...	...	...	5
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	12
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	18
Other Food Premises	...	...	...	...	185
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	32
Dairies	...	...	...	...	10
Cafés and Restaurants	...	...	...	...	33
Knackers Yard	...	...	...	...	5
Shops	...	...	...	...	136
Public Health Inspections	...	...	...	...	75
Re-Inspections	...	...	...	...	176
Housing (Inspections and Re-Inspections)	...	...	...	...	379
Moveable Dwellings	...	...	...	...	25
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	27
Drainage Inspections	...	...	...	...	89
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	7
Cesspools	...	...	...	...	4

WOKINGHAM MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	11
Martins Swimming Pool	...	...	...	...	...	17
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	69
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	9
Public Houses and Place of Entertainment	...	...	...	...	...	7
Other Visits	...	...	...	...	...	56
Infectious Disease and Food Poisoning Visits	...	...	...	...	...	12
Number of Disinfections	...	...	...	...	...	7
Verminous Houses inspected	...	...	...	...	...	5
Number of Disinfestations	...	...	...	...	...	15

NATURE OF NUISANCES DEALT WITH DURING THE YEAR :

Defective and insufficient cesspools	...	...	...	...	1
Defective drains	...	...	...	...	15
Choked drains	...	...	...	...	17
Choked and foul W.C. pans	...	...	...	...	3
Defective flushing cisterns	...	...	...	...	4
Defective Soil and Ventilating Pipes	...	...	...	...	2
Defective Waste Pipes and Traps	...	...	...	...	6
Defective Sanitary fitments	...	...	...	...	2
Defective Gutters and Stackpipes	...	...	...	...	23
Defective Roofs	...	...	...	...	37
Defective Chimney Stacks	...	...	...	...	9
Damp Premises	...	...	...	...	45
Defective Floors	...	...	...	...	7
Defective Grates and Coppers	...	...	...	...	2
Defective Windows, Skylights and Doors	...	...	...	...	27
Defective Plaster (Walls and Ceilings)	...	...	...	...	15
Defective or Insufficient Refuse Receptacle	...	...	...	...	157
Offensive Accumulations	...	...	...	...	3
Defective Staircases	...	...	...	...	5
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	27

R. G. HOPKINS,

Public Health Inspector.

Cookham Rural District.

STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	24,901
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Book at end of 1956	...	...	...	...	...	4,558
Rateable Value, 1st April, 1957	...	...	...	...	...	£200,960
Product of a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	£780
Population (estimated mid-year)	...	...	...	...	...	15,260
Live Birth Rate (actual) (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	17.1
Live Birth Rate (corrected) (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	17.1
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.65
Death Rate (actual) (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	9.10
Death Rate (corrected) (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	9.6
Infant Death Rate (per 1,000 live births)	...	...	...	...	...	15.3
Tuberculosis Death Rate (per 1,000 population) :						
(a) Respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	0.06
(b) Other Forms	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
(c) All Forms	...	...	...	...	...	0.06
Typhoid Fever—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Whooping Cough—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Diphtheria—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Influenza—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.06
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Pneumonia—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.45
Measles—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Maternal Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	2

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year 119 children were immunised against Diphtheria for the first time. Sixteen children received re-inforcing injections.

COOKHAM RURAL DISTRICT

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS.

Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	68
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Acute Poliomyelitis :							
(a) Paralytic	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
(b) Non-paralytic	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	0

NOTIFICATIONS OF TUBERCULOSIS (and ages).

Age Groups.				Pulmonary.		Non-pulmonary.	
				M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
5-14 years	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
15-24 „	...	...	...	1	1	1	—
25-44 „	...	...	...	1	—	—	—
45-64 „	...	...	...	1	1	—	—
65 and over	...	...	...	2	—	—	—
Totals	...	...	...	5	2	1	—

COOKHAM RURAL DISTRICT

CAUSES OF DEATH IN COOKHAM RURAL DISTRICT, 1956.

CAUSES OF DEATH.					Male.	Female.
ALL CAUSES.					71	68
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	1	-
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	-	-
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	-	-
5.	Whooping cough	...	...	...	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	-	-
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	-	-
8.	Measles	...	...	...	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	1	1
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	4	1
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	-	1
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	-	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	8	6
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	1	-
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	-	2
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	9	13
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	12	8
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	-	-
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	12	13
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	1	1
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	1	-
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	4	3
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	5	1
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	1	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	3	-
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	-	-
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	2	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	-	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	-	2
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	-	-
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	4	9
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	2	2
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	-	1
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	-	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	-	-

REPORT OF THE ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR.

MAIN DRAINAGE.

HURLEY.

The main drainage at Hurley was completed during 1956, and all but six houses which were capable of being connected to the sewer, were so connected.

COOKHAM.

The Contract was signed in the closing days of 1956 for the main drainage scheme involving over 8 miles of sewer, with the intention of starting in the early days of the new year.

ALEX MANDEVILLE,
Engineer and Surveyor.

COOKHAM RURAL DISTRICT

REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

WATER SUPPLIES.

The following list shows the number of houses in each of the seven parishes in the Rural District served (a) by a piped water supply and (b) by a well water supply:—

Parish.				Total Houses	On Main	On Well
Bisham	...	...	...	308	300	8
Bray	...	...	...	1,269	1,257	12
Cookham	...	...	...	1,509	1,462	54
Hurley	...	...	...	533	504	29
Shottesbrook	...	...		40	40	—
Waltham St. Lawrence	...			364	364	1
White Waltham	...	...		535	535	—

The water from the properties on a well water supply is regularly sampled and the results of the 43 samples taken during the year are summarised as follows:—

Satisfactory	...	...	...	32
Unsatisfactory		...	...	11

During the year it was found that the water from a well serving a dozen or more properties was polluted. Water was being pumped from the well about 60ft. deep and repeated samples showed that the water was unsatisfactory for drinking purposes. A chlorinating plant was installed and no further trouble has been found.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS :

Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	197
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	151
Caravan Sites, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	264
Shops	...	...	...	...	...	89
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	2

COOKHAM RURAL DISTRICT

Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Pig Keeping Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Public Health Act Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	569
Public Health Act Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	716
Visits re: overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25

NOTICES :

Number of Informal Notices served during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	148
Number of Informal Notices complied with during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	136
Number of Informal Notices outstanding at end of the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Number of Formal Notices served during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Number of Formal Notices complied with during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Number of Formal Notices outstanding at end of the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.

HOUSING PROGRESS :

Number of Permanent 3-bedroomed houses completed since 1945	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	185
Number of Permanent 2-bedroomed houses completed since 1945	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	103
Number of Permanent 1-bedroomed Bungalows completed since 1945	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Number of Permanent 2-bedroomed Bungalows completed since 1945	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	52
Number of Permanent 4-bedroomed Houses completed since 1945	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Number of Prefabricated Bungalows	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Number of Nissen Huts used as temporary dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	None
Number of Permanent 3-bedroomed houses in course of erection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
Number of Permanent 2-bedroomed houses in course of erection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Number of Permanent 2-bedroomed flats in course of erection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Number of Permanent 1-bedroomed flats in course of erection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

COOKHAM RURAL DISTRICT

MILK SAMPLING :

Number of samples taken :—	...	...	...	70
Methylene Blue Test result—Satisfactory	...	...	...	58
Methylene Blue Test result—Unsatisfactory	...	...	...	2
Phosphatase Test result—Satisfactory	...	...	...	58
Phosphatase Test result—Unsatisfactory	...	...	...	1

ICE CREAM SAMPLING :

Number of samples taken :—	...	...	...	24
Result of samples taken—Provisional Grade 1	...	...	...	23
Result of samples taken—Provisional Grade 2	...	...	...	1
Result of samples taken—Provisional Grade 3	...	...	...	—
Result of samples taken—Provisional Grade 4	...	...	...	—

UNSOUND FOOD :

The under-mentioned foodstuffs were surrendered and disposed of after being examined and found to be unfit for human consumption:—

Cheese Spread	...	...	...	88 boxes and 95 x 4-oz. portions.
Cheese Spread with Ham	...	...	...	138 portions.
Cheese Spread	...	...	...	60 x 2-oz. portions.
Sandwich Spread	...	...	...	7 x 4-oz. jars.
Nestles Milo	...	...	...	2 x 4-oz. tins.
Peas	...	...	...	25 tins.
Smedley's Plums	...	...	...	6 tins.
Luncheon Meat	...	...	...	1 tin.
Ox Tongue	...	...	...	1 x 6-lb. tin.
Corned Beef	...	...	...	3 x 6-lb. tins.
Evaporated Milk	...	...	...	10 tins.
Nestles Cream	...	...	...	1 tin.
Stewed Steak	...	...	...	2 tins of 16-ozs.
Colmans Mustard	...	...	...	1 x 16-oz.
Oats	...	...	...	3 pkts. of 1½-lbs.
Celery Hearts	...	...	...	2 x 1-oz.
Orange Juice	...	...	...	1 x 19-ozs.
Fruit Salad	...	...	...	2 tins.
Pineapple	...	...	...	2 x 16-oz. tins.
Blackcurrant Juice	...	...	...	1 bottle.
Mint Sauce	...	...	...	2 x 3-ozs.
Fry's Cocoa	...	...	...	1 x 8-ozs.
Blackcurrant Jam	...	...	...	2 x 1-lb. pots.
Chivers Redcurrant Jelly	...	...	...	1
Raspberry Jam	...	...	...	2 x 1-lb. jars.
Apricot Jam	...	...	...	1 x 1-lb. jar.
Sliced Peaches	...	...	...	1 x 8oz. tin.
Foster Clarks Beetroot	...	...	...	1 x 13-oz. jar.
Prunes	...	...	...	1-oz.
H.P. Beans	...	...	...	2 x 16-oz. tins.
Pickled Onions	...	...	...	9 jars.

COOKHAM RURAL DISTRICT

Pilchards	...	...	...	...	1 x 15-oz. tin.
Pine Rings	...	...	...	...	1 tin 6-lb. 12-ozs.
Strawberry Jam	...	...	...	...	1 x 1-lb. jar.
Mincemeat	...	...	...	...	1 x 1-lb. jar.
Chunky Marmalade	...	...	...	...	1 x 1-lb. jar.
Jellied Veal	...	...	...	...	1 x 6-lb. tin.
Tomato Ketchup	...	...	...	...	1 x 13-oz. bottle.
H.P. Sauce	...	...	...	...	17 bottles.
Pickles	...	...	...	...	4 jars.
Bean and Bacon	...	...	...	...	1 x 8-oz. tin.
Jiffi Jellies	...	...	...	...	8 pots.
Peanut Butter	...	...	...	...	2 x 8-oz. jars.
Birds Grape Nuts	...	...	...	...	2 x 10-oz. packets.
Ground Rice	...	...	...	...	8 x 1-lb. packets.
Creamed Rice	...	...	...	...	4 tins.
Chicken in Natural Juices	...	...	...	...	1 x 4-lb. tin.
Pine Pieces	...	...	...	...	2 x 33-lb. tins.
Red Cherries in Water	...	...	...	...	97 x 6-lb. 10-oz. tins.
1 Beast's Head	...	...	...	...	1 x 25-lbs.

DRY SCAVENGING :

The Public Health Department is responsible to the Council for the working of both Scavenging Services.

The Council's Fleet of vehicles was augmented towards the end of the year by a large Dual Tip 18-cubic yard capacity vehicle, and a second one is on order.

All the refuse is disposed of on one tip where controlled tipping is in operation, and, during the whole of the year, although the tip is very near some 16 houses, not a single complaint was received. A Mechanical Shovel is used to level and consolidate the refuse when it is brought in, and, as adequate covering material is available on the site, no difficulty is experienced in keeping the sides and top of the tip face sealed.

The general working of the tip was commented on very favourably during the summer by the local Press.

Salvage collected with the household refuse as one combined operation—approximately £1,250 worth of salvage was disposed of—and we are very fortunate in being able to dispose of all our waste paper stocks by the end of the year. It is hoped that some mechanical means of loading the bales of waste paper can be obtained next year as loading a lorry with up to ten tons of baled paper at a time can be a very hefty and tiring operation when done manually.

WET SCAVENGING :

One new one-thousand gallon capacity cesspool emptier was added to the Council's fleet of vehicles and a second of similar

COOKHAM RURAL DISTRICT

capacity is on order. The extra carrying capacity of the larger vehicle is most noticeable.

Two events of note occurred during the year; the Sewerage Scheme for the village of Hurley was completed and, most important of all, sanction was at last received from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government that the sewerage scheme for the villages of Cookham and Cookham Rise could commence and work is due to start on January 1st, 1957.

The cesspool contents are disposed of on lagoon beds and the dried sludge is used as covering material on the controlled tip. One set of beds is being enlarged by means of the removal of some of the banks separating the beds in order that the beds can be cleaned out mechanically.

No problem with respect to the Council's manual staff occurred during the year; any vacancies which did occur were quickly filled, and numerous enquiries were received from workmen awaiting employment on the Council's Staff.

FOOD POISONING.

One rather serious outbreak occurred during the year and concerned a wedding party of over 100 guests. No deaths occurred but the majority of the people were ill. The actual cause of the outbreak was not traced.

FOOD PREMISES.

Ninety-two (92) visits were made to food shops in the area and 62 made to licensed premises and hotels. Improvements are gradually being made to the licensed premises in the area and the general standard of facilities provided is showing a marked trend for the better.

CARAVAN SITES.

One hundred and forty-nine (149) visits were made to the 14 Caravan Sites in the area and 115 visits made to individual caravans. The Council are proposing to provide a caravan site of their own and it is hoped that it will be in operation next year.

PETROLEUM ACTS AND REGULATIONS.

The number of premises in the area licensed to store petroleum spirit is now 52 and 35 visits were made to the premises concerned.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

No serious outbreak of infectious diseases occurred during the year.

RODENT CONTROL.

A full time Rodent Operative is employed by the Council and the following is a summary of the work carried out:—

Number of inspections and re-inspections	...	...	2,662
Number of infestations found and treated	...	...	555
Number of complaints	...	...	213

HOUSING.

A detailed review of the number of applicants on the Council's waiting list was undertaken towards the end of the year and a very significant drop in the number on the list from that which resulted from the last review in 1954 was made.

ADMINISTRATION OF FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

1. INSPECTIONS MADE BY THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

<i>Premises</i> (1)	<i>M/c line Vo.</i> (2)	<i>Number on Register</i> (3)	<i>Number of</i>		
			<i>Inspections</i> (4)	<i>Written notices</i> (5)	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i> (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	1	7	20	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	2	49	71	3	—
(iii) Other Premises under the Act (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	3	—	—	—	—
TOTAL		56	91	3	—

COOKHAM RURAL DISTRICT

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	No. of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosec't'ns were instituted (7)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Insp'tor (5)			By H.M. Insp'tor (6)
Want of cleanliness ...	4	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	5	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable tempera- ture	6	2	—	2	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	7	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	8	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences						
(a) Insufficient ...	9	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	4	1	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not in cluding offences re- lating to Homework	12	4	—	4	—	—
TOTAL	60	10	1	6	1	—

PART 8 OF THE ACT.

OUTWORK (SECTION 110 and 111).

Nature of Work (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Section 110			Section 111		
		No. of out- workers in August list req'd by Sect. 110 (1) (c) (3)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (4)	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists (5)	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises (6)	Not- ices serv- ed (7)	Pro- secu- tions (8)
Wearing apparel : Making, etc. ...	13	8	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	70	8	—	—	—	—	—

May I finally express my appreciation of the work of the other members of the department who have always given me their whole-hearted co-operation.

I am, Sir,

E. G. POLLARD,
Senior Public Health Inspector.

March, 1957.

REPORT ON AN OUTBREAK OF FOOD POISONING— MAY, 1956.

On Thursday, May 17th, 1956, two notifications were received from the Medical Officer of Health, East Berks United Sanitary Districts, that there were two cases of clinical dysentery at an hotel in the district—one being a waiter, Mr. A., and the other a waiter, Mr. B.

The manager of the hotel was interviewed and he took me to see Mr. A. who was ill in bed. He told me he took all his meals at the hotel: he worked the same shift as Mr. B., and his last meal before taken ill on Saturday the 12th May, 1956, was the same as that taken by the rest of the staff—p.m. on Friday the 11th May. Although feeling ill he attended work until p.m. on Saturday the 13th May. He had suffered from headaches, severe abdominal pains and diarrhoea.

Mr. B. was at his home in Maidenhead. His case was immediately reported to the Public Health Authority at Maidenhead.

A sample of faeces was collected from Mr. A. during the afternoon of May 17th, together with samples from Mr. B.'s family and a Mr. C.—an under-chef—who, it was discovered, had also been unwell.

At approximately 10 a.m. on the morning of Friday the 18th May a telephone message was received from the Public Health Laboratory stating that Mr. A., Mr. C., Mrs. B. and her two children were suffering from a *Salmonella* infection. The strain had yet to be identified.

The hotel in question was visited by the Medical Officer and myself during the afternoon, when manager, staff and kitchens were inspected.

A list was obtained of all the food handlers working in the hotel and sampling jars were left for routine samples to be submitted for a Laboratory test. Twelve (12) samples were submitted to the Laboratory p.m. Friday, 18th May—the remainder of the samples being submitted a.m. Saturday, 19th May.

On Sunday, 20th May, a telephone message was received at my home from the Public Health Laboratory who stated that the isolated organism was *Salmonella Typhimurium*.

The manager of the hotel was interviewed between 12.30 and 2 p.m., the urgency for scrupulous cleanliness was again emphasised, and he was informed of the findings of the Laboratory. He was also told that both the Medical Officer of Health and myself would be visiting him on Monday, 21st May.

COOKHAM RURAL DISTRICT

On the morning of Monday, 21st May, a telephone message was received from the Medical Officer stating that Mrs. D.—whose husband was a waiter at the hotel—had been ill with symptoms which suggested food poisoning. Permission was obtained for me to visit this family—it being outside our Area.

At about 10 a.m. Mrs. D. was interviewed at her home in Maidenhead. During the course of the interview Mrs. D. stated that both she and her daughter, aged 8, had received some food remnants of a wedding reception held at the hotel on Wednesday, 9th May. These had been eaten during the evening of the 9th and within 48 hours they both suffered from severe frontal headaches, abdominal pains and diarrhoea. Mrs. D. stated she had eaten sandwiches of ham, tongue, egg, liver-sausage, sausage rolls, chicken and a type of fish paté.

The Medical Officer was interviewed at the Isolation Hospital and together we interviewed Mr. A. who was now a patient at the Hospital.

We then proceeded to the hotel where the manager told us the name and address of the people who had ordered the wedding reception. These were the parents of the bride.

On Tuesday morning, 22nd May, the bride's parents were interviewed at their home. During the course of the interview a telephone bell rang and I spoke to Dr. E. of Shrewsbury who was the Groom at the wedding. He told me he had been ill with headache, temperature and diarrhoea, within 48 hours of the reception. The Medical Officer was immediately informed that it appeared food at the wedding reception was contaminated.

A list of the names and addresses of all the guests attending the reception was obtained and it was found that four people in the district had been ill with symptoms of food poisoning.

In the afternoon the Medical Officer was given a list of names and addresses and he in turn contacted the Medical Officers of Health of all the districts in which guests lived.

Later in the afternoon the following three were interviewed:—

Mr. F.

At the luncheon held at the hotel in question on 9th May, 1956, which was held between 1 p.m. and 2 p.m., Mr. F. ate egg and ham sandwiches, lobster and chicken paté, sausage rolls, chipolatas, one fancy cake and a portion of cream layered cake. No trifle, fruit salad or jelly.

At 9 p.m. on Friday, 11th May, he had a severe frontal headache. He went to work on Saturday but suffered with attacks of alternate hot flushes and shivers, violent abdominal pains and spasmodic headaches. He ceased work at noon, went home, failed to eat his lunch and went to bed. He passed a motion approximately every seven minutes until Wednesday morning, the 16th May, passing a large amount of blood in the process.

Mr. F.'s family doctor was contacted by 'phone and he visited the patient on Sunday morning the 13th May. During the course of consultation Mr. F. remarked that he thought he was suffering from food poisoning. It is reported that his doctor agreed with this. The patient has since contracted a chill and is still in bed.

Mrs. F.

Mrs. F. attended the same reception as her husband and as far as she could remember ate the same type of food.

The first symptoms suffered by Mrs. F. occurred during the afternoon of Saturday the 12th May. These were feelings of drowsiness, alternate hot flushes and shivers.

At approximately 6.30 p.m. she suffered from severe headache accompanied by violent abdominal pains and diarrhoea. These symptoms lasted until sometime during Wednesday the 16th May. No blood was passed in the motion.

Mrs. G.

Mrs. G. attended the reception at the hotel. She ate tongue sandwiches, lobster and chicken paté, sausage rolls, trifle and fruit salad.

On Thursday, 10th May, Mrs. G. suffered from severe headache, abdominal pains and diarrhoea; the latter lasting until Saturday the 12th May. The pains lasted until Wednesday the 16th accompanied by hot flushes and shivers. Her family doctor did not attend, not having been notified.

Sampling jars were left in each case. These samples were submitted to the Laboratory, and in each case was reported positive on 24th May.

During Tuesday evening a Mrs. H. was interviewed. She had eaten sausage rolls, tongue sandwiches and fruit salad, but had not been ill.

Mrs. I., in an interview, stated she had attended the reception and had eaten lobster paté, chipolatas, sandwiches and fruit salad.

At 3 a.m., on Friday, 11th May, she suffered from severe frontal headache, dizziness, abdominal pains and diarrhoea. These symptoms were almost clear by Monday. Her family doctor did not attend, not having been notified. A sample of faeces was reported as negative on 28th May, 1956.

A house was then visited where other guests who attended the reception lived, but they were not at home. A further visit was made on Wednesday morning when I was informed by the housekeeper they had gone to Oxford for a few days. A message was left asking them to contact the office as soon as they returned.

During an interview on Friday both the above guests stated they had not been ill after the reception. They ate:—

COOKHAM RURAL DISTRICT

Mrs. J.: Chicken paté bouchees, ham sandwiches, asparagus tips, chipolatas and trifle.

Mr. J.: Chicken paté bouchees, ham sandwiches, sponge cream gateaux and chipolatas.

Arrangements were made to test faecal samples.

On Thursday morning, 24th May, the head chef at the hotel in question was interviewed regarding the preparation of food for the reception.

Also on Thursday, stool samples from Mr. F.'s three children, together with samples from the bride's parents and sister were submitted to the Laboratory for examination. In all these cases a negative report was received.

During an interview on Friday with the bride's mother, she remembered the names and addresses of two further guests. These were living at Marlow and Chingford respectively. These have now been reported to their respective Public Health Authorities.

On Friday further samples were collected from the staff at the hotel and submitted for examination—the remainder to be collected when available—the idea being, if possible, to give the whole hotel staff a clean bill of health. During the collection of samples from the hotel a scraping from the bench on which chickens are normally drawn was taken. This was also submitted for examination.

On Monday, 28th May, a sample of synthetic cream which it had been discovered was used extensively during the preparation of the reception meal was obtained, and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination.

In the case of the persons from whom pathogens were detected further samples were submitted to the Laboratory after their course of treatment had been completed, until three consecutive negatives were obtained.

All are now clear except Mr. F. who had two consecutive negative samples and again became positive.

No pathogenic organisms were found either in the bench scrapings or in samples of food submitted for examination. Due to the lapse of time between the reception, and when the wedding reception was suspected to have caused the outbreak, no actual remnants of the meal were obtainable.

The following is the Public Health Laboratory report on the synthetic cream:—

Date of Report: 4.6.56

“Direct culture gives a heavy bacterial growth, non lactose fermenting coliforms predominating.

“No pathogens detected on direct plating or subcultures from selenite.”

K. ARNDELL,

Additional Sanitary Inspector,
Cookham Rural District.

1, Bath Road, Maidenhead.
June, 1956.

Easthampstead Rural District.

STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	27,610
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Book at end of 1956	...	...	...	...	...	8,488
Rateable Value, 1st April, 1957	...	...	...	...	...	£384,647
Product of a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	£1,573
Population (estimated mid-year)	...	...	...	...	...	32,390
Live Birth Rate (actual) (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	18.5
Live Birth Rate (corrected) (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	17.9
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.37
Death Rate (actual) (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	9.3
Death Rate (corrected) (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	9.6
Infant Death Rate (per 1,000 live births)	...	...	...	...	...	23.3
Tuberculosis Death Rate (per 1,000 population):						
(a) Respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
(b) Other Forms	...	...	...	...	...	0.06
(c) All Forms	...	...	...	...	...	0.06
Typhoid Fever—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Whooping Cough—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Diphtheria—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Influenza—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.15
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Pneumonia—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.52
Measles—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Maternal Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year 427 children were immunised against Diphtheria for the first time. Thirty-seven children received re-inforcing injections.

EASTHAMPSTEAD RURAL DISTRICT

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS.

Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Acute Poliomyelitis :							
(a) Paralytic	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
(b) Non-Paralytic	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	...	82
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	59
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	0

NOTIFICATIONS OF TUBERCULOSIS (and ages).

Age Groups.				Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
				M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
5-14 years	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
15-24	„	...	...	2	2	—	—
25-44	„	...	...	3	4	—	1
45-64	„	...	...	1	1	—	—
65 and over	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Totals	...	...	...	6	7	—	1

EASTHAMPSTEAD RURAL DISTRICT

CAUSES OF DEATH IN EASTHAMPSTEAD RURAL DISTRICT, 1956.

CAUSES OF DEATH.					Male.	Female.
ALL CAUSES.					170	133
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	—	—
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	1	1
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—
5.	Whooping cough	...	...	...	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	...	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	—	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	3	2
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	15	2
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	—	8
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	—	—
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	17	16
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	1	—
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	—	—
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	19	24
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	23	14
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	6	6
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	15	13
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	13	5
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	1	4
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	6	11
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	7	3
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	2	—
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	2	3
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	1	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	3	—
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	2	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	2	4
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	14	12
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	6	1
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	6	2
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	5	—
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	—	—

REPORT BY THE ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR.

Period Covered: Year Ended 31st March, 1957.

HOUSING.

In the year under review, 56 traditional type houses were completed ready for occupation:—

2-bedroom houses	...	...	...	44
3-bedroom houses	...	...	...	2
1-bedroom bungalows	...	...	...	4
2-bedroom bungalows	...	...	...	6
				—
				56
				—

EASTHAMPSTEAD RURAL DISTRICT

Representations have been made to the Council by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government regarding the large number of occupants still housed in hutted camps, and the Council has been informed that requisitioning powers will not be continued after the end of 1958; all camps must therefore be cleared and de-requisitioned by that date. In consequence, the Council has considered ways and means of increasing the output of houses to enable this to be done and has also decided that, in general, new houses should be allocated in the proportions:—

Re-housing from hutted camps	...	...	60%
Re-housing from unfit houses	...	...	20%
General housing	...	...	20%

To assist in the housing programme the Council have appointed Mr. D. Freeman as architect for the house design at Deepfield Road site, Bracknell, the intention being that my department will undertake advance preparation of the site and Mr. Freeman will design and be responsible for the erection of the housing. The Council have also appointed a full time Clerk of Works to assist with the supervision.

The layout for Deepfield Road site has been approved by the Council and the housing contract will be ready to go out to tender in September. Meanwhile, a tender in the sum of £44,051. 5s. 7d. has been accepted for the construction of concrete carriageways, footpaths and a trunk 24in. surface water sewer, part of the cost of which will be met by the Bracknell Development Corporation and the Highway Authority, as the sewer will serve part of the Town Centre development. The contract also includes the necessary foul sewers to drain the site.

The approved layout comprises:—

2-bedroom bungalows	...	...	...	24 No.
2-bedroom flats	...	...	...	60 No.
3-bedroom houses	...	...	...	100 No.
				<hr/>
Total units of accommodation	...	...	...	184 No.
				<hr/>

A small shopping site has been reserved.

Development of the existing sites at Binfield has been completed and a contract has been let, and work is proceeding, for the advance preparation of site "B," the work comprising concrete roadworks foul and surface water sewers, at a tendered sum of £4,427 9s. 10d. This site will provide for:—

1-bedroom bungalows	...	...	...	2 No.
2-bedroom bungalows	...	...	...	2 No.
2-bedroom houses	...	...	...	12 No.
3-bedroom houses	...	...	...	12 No.
				<hr/>
Total units of accommodation	...	...	...	28 No.
				<hr/>

The building contract will be let in the near future.

Proposals have been approved for the construction of two blocks of four type "S" flats, four pairs of 3-bedroom houses and three garages, in Longdown Road, Sandhurst.

The Fernbank Place estate site is now complete except for the erection of shops and the completion of two blocks of four 2-bedroom flats—which are the Council's first venture in flat construction, and are due for completion on the 15th August.

Progress on the proposed housing site at Gough's Meadow, Sandhurst, is slow, as it will be necessary to acquire land from British Railways; a further portion of the site will need to be acquired from the existing owner by compulsory purchase. It is hoped that this site will serve for re-housing the majority of the Owlsmoor clearance area. A detailed site survey has been completed, and provisional layouts will be available soon for consideration.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

Considerable progress has now been made in the modernization of property with the aid of Improvement Grants under the Housing Act, and a more active policy by the Public Health Department to publicise and encourage applications under this Act could result in a considerable improvement in housing conditions throughout the area. During the year under review, thirty-eight grants were made, totalling £8,955.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The year covered by this report has seen the completion of the Bracknell Development Corporation's works in Hazelwood Lane, Binfield, and the consequent closing-down of the Bracknell Works, the site of which is now being re-developed as part of the Western Industrial area.

Consideration has been given to the possibility of diverting the flow from the Winkfield Works, which is overloaded, and connecting to the northern trunk sewer, but it would appear to be more economical to carry out extension works at Winkfield to cope with the increased flow.

An inquiry was held into the Council's proposals for the Warfield Street area, and the scheme—although generally approved in principle—was deferred owing to the restriction on capital expenditure. The proposals have been re-submitted with some small amendments and it is hoped that approval will now be forthcoming to undertake this necessary work. The sewers will connect to the Bracknell Development Corporation's northern trunk sewer.

Approval has at last been received to the proposals to double the size of the Sandhurst Works which is; and for some

EASTHAMPSTEAD RURAL DISTRICT

years has been, running at over-capacity. These extensions are required partly to allow treatment of additional sewage to be received from the Hartley Wintney R.D., and tenders have now been invited by the Council's Consultants, Messrs. Howard Humphreys.

The Council has now instituted a cesspool emptying service and arrangements have been made with the Bracknell Development Corporation to accept and treat cesspool contents in the northern area. In the southern area, arrangements have been made for acceptance and treatment at the Sandhurst works, and the Council has also agreed to accept the discharge of cesspool-emptier loads from part of the Hartley Wintney Rural District.

H. CHARLESWORTH,
Engineer and Surveyor.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

WATER SUPPLY.

PUBLIC SUPPLY.

Piped water supply is available to every Parish and is supplied by the Mid-Wessex Water Company, Frimley Green, Aldershot, (Parishes of Bracknell, Crowthorne Sandhurst, Easthampstead, Binfield and Warfield) and by the South West Suburban Water Company, The Causeway, Staines (Parish of Winkfield).

Routine samples are taken of the Mid-Wessex Water Company's Supply and submitted for Bacteriological and Modified Chemical (Hardness) analyses to the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene.

The results of analyses are tabulated:—

MID-WESSEX WATER COMPANY.

Parish.	No. of Samples Taken	Chemical		Bacteriological	
		Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory
Binfield	2	2	—	2	—
Crowthorne	1	1	—	1	—
Sandhurst	1	1	—	1	—
Warfield	1	1	—	1	—

The large majority of houses in the Rural District are now connected to the public mains. The few houses remaining dependent on private supplies are in isolated positions where mains are not available nor practicable at a reasonable cost.

REFUSE AND SALVAGE—COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

COLLECTION SERVICE.

The report made on this service last year, in the main, covers the working of this service for 1956. There was a slight improvement in the labour situation towards the end of the year, which helped to keep the service running more smoothly.

A factor which is showing an increase is the quantity of trade refuse collected in the district, particularly in Bracknell. The next few years will see the opening of many more shops, offices and factories, with consequent increases in volume of this class of refuse. It will be necessary to make a separate collection of this material to relieve the routine work of domestic collection and the cost of this extra service should be met by a direct charge to traders.

CONTROLLED TIP.

Conditions of the tip continued very satisfactorily during the year.

SALVAGE.

The accompanying table gives comparative figures for three years, 1954, 1955 and 1956. Paper continues to be in demand, although trading conditions called for a limitation of supplies to the mills. Nevertheless, the Thames Board Mills have been quite liberal in the quota fixed for this Council, having regard to our increases in population and businesses.

Vehicle.	No. of Loads.	Approx. Volume of Refuse Cub. Yds.	Miles Travelled.	PETROL		OIL.	
				Gallons Used.	Miles per gallon	Gallons Used.	Miles per gallon
Karrier EJB.588 ...	626	6,260	10,499	1,624½	6.46	20	524.95
Dennis CMO.802 ...	363¼	3,632½	4,616	887	5.20	24¾	186.10
S. & D. GMO.419 ...	671	13,420	7,910	1,668	4.74	8¾	904.00
Total ...	1,660¼	23,312½	23,025	4,179½	*5.51	53½	*430.37
DIESEL.							
S. & D. JRX.119 ...	704½	14,090	7,491	881½	8.49	12	624.25
Karrier MRX.655 ...	210	2,520	4,366	315	13.82	8½	513.64
Total ...	2,574¾	39,922½	11,857	1,196½	*9.91	20½	*578.39

N.B.—Totals marked with an asterisk are computed on the basis of the total miles travelled and the total quantity of petrol, oil or diesel used, as the case may be.

SALVAGE SALES.

Material.	1954			1955			1956		
	T. C.	£	s. d.	T. C.	£	s. d.	T. C.	£	s. d.
PAPER ...	209 5	1,490	17 2	251 10	2,073	9 5	258 1½	2,047	9 9
TEXTILES ...	2½	4	0 0	1 17¾	39	14 10	1 15	39	17 0
	209 7½	1,494	17 2	253 7¾	2,113	4 3	259 16½	2,087	6 9

EASTHAMPSTEAD RURAL DISTRICT

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS :

Complaints	...	...	...	...	...	219
Visits and Re-visits	...	...	...	...	...	738
Work in Progress	...	...	...	...	...	256
Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	...	...	407
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	...	5
Refuse Tip and Collection	...	...	...	...	...	306
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	163
Land Charges (Searches)	...	...	...	...	...	216
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	618
Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	...	4

HOUSING ACTS :

Housing Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	271
Applications for Houses	...	...	...	...	...	25
Council Houses and Temporary Camps	...	...	...	...	...	76
Interviews on Sites	...	...	...	...	...	170

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

Food Shops	...	...	...	...	...	191
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	77
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	62
Meat Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	388
Butchers' Premises	...	...	...	...	...	216

FACTORY ACTS :

Inspections, including Bakehouses	73
-----------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

NOTICES SERVED AND ABATED.

Statute	Preliminary Notices	Statutory Notices	Court Proceedings	Abated
Public Health Acts	84	17	5	79
Housing Acts	—	—	—	—
Food and Drugs Acts	4	—	—	2
Factories Acts	—	—	—	—

HOUSING ACTS, 1936-54.

Following the report on changes in the Housing Acts and the proposals submitted to the Minister by this Council in accordance with Section 1 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954, twenty-two houses were represented as "individual unfits" from September 1955 to 31st December 1956. Of these two families have since been re-housed by the local authority.

The rate of re-housing occupants of unfit houses is so slow that there must either be a slowing down of inspections and representations, which will upset the programme submitted to the Minister, or the Council must increase the rate of building and allocation of new houses for this purpose. The Council at present allocates one-fifth of new houses for re-housing from unfit houses.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

A short table following sets out the statistics of Moveable Dwellings licensed within the Rural District. Of the ten sites, two are large and account for 320 vans. A third, is growing rapidly and will probably reach from 200 vans by mid-1957. All the sites are very well equipped and managed. One site is for holiday caravanners only and is run in accordance with the rules of the Caravan Club of Great Britain, by a member of the organisation. Main water supplies are on all sites and most have modern water carriage drainage.

Individual licensed vans are also well maintained and supplied with good sanitary arrangements. A feature of these vans in recent years has been the number of people putting vans on to their own housing sites until such times as they can build their houses. It has been suggested by the County Planning Officer that a Council owned and controlled site should be established in the Rural District but the Council, after giving the suggestion careful consideration, decided that private enterprise is quite capable of meeting the requirements of caravanners in the Rural District.

Council sites	...	...	...	Nil caravans
Private Sites (10)	...	...	...	461 caravans
Individual Licensed Caravans	...	...	...	59

FOOD AND DRUGS.

The District's 18 butchers' shops receive regular inspection from time to time in addition to the visits paid for the condemnation of meat. Particular attention is given to the methods of handling and standards of cleanliness during the bulk deliveries of meat to the shops.

No. of Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	17
No. of Cafes and Restaurants	...	...	...	...	16
No. of Food Shops	...	...	...	...	113
No. of Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	62

Licensed Houses are inspected and the methods of handling and washing of glasses and utensils. Improvements have been secured by installation of proper supplies of hot water, sinks and

EASTHAMPSTEAD RURAL DISTRICT

use of detergents and sterilising agents. Four Licensed Houses became redundant and two new houses were licensed during the year.

MILK AND DAIRIES.

No. of Registered Premises	...	...	...	...	...	11
No. of Registered Distributors:—						
(a) In the area	...	...	...	...	...	11
(b) Outside the area	...	...	...	...	...	12
No. of Milk Producers (Ministry of Agriculture, Fish and Food Records)	...	...	...	...	...	59

MILK (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk)
REGULATIONS, 1949–1953MILK (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) REGULATIONS,
1949–1954.

TABLE OF LICENCES ISSUED

Classification	Tuberculin- tested	Pasteurised	Sterilised
Dealers'			
Licences ...	9	9	4
Supplementary Licences ...	12	12	5

RECORD OF SAMPLES, 1956.

Particulars	Total Samples	Methylene Blue		Phosphatase	
		Satisfac- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satisfac- factory	Unsatis- factory
Plant in F.R.D. Area ...	6	6	—	6	—
Retailed in E.R.D. area from plant outside ...	10	9	1	10	—

Samples taken by Berkshire County Council from Pasteurising Plant either situate in the Easthampstead Rural District or from premises outside the District from which milk is retailed into this area:—

EASTHAMPSTEAD RURAL DISTRICT

Particulars	Total Samples	Methylene Blue		Phosphatase	
		Satisfac- tory	Unsatis- factory	Satisfac- tory	Unsatis- factory
Pasteurisers in E.R.D.C. Area	34	24 (10 void)	—	34	—
Pasteurisers in other Dis- tricts—Milk sold into E.R.D.C. Area	33	22 (11 void)	—	33	—

SCHOOL MILK SUPPLIES.

The 16 County Schools in the district are all supplied with Pasteurised Milk from 5 different retailers according to the area in which they are situated. This also applies to the seven private schools in the area. These supplies are regularly sampled and are included in the above table of samples and results.

ICE CREAM.

Number of Premises Registered:—

Manufacturers	5
Sale only	76

The premises are inspected regularly and samples taken showing the following results:—

Sample No.	Test	Provisional Grade
1	Methylene Blue	1
2	.. ..	1
3	.. ..	1
4	.. ..	1

MEAT INSPECTION.

Since July 1954, when rationing of meat came to an end, there have been two licensed slaughterhouses working in the Rural District. Both premises had been licensed up to 1939 but, by reason of disuse and the passage of time, were unsuitable for modern requirements. The two butchers concerned were very co-operative in carrying out works of improvement and brought their premises up to a good standard before starting slaughtering. The volume of killing is not high but the quality and soundness of

EASTHAMPSTEAD RURAL DISTRICT

the meat has been very good. The following table gives an analysis of inspection and percentage of disease.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART.

Disease.	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	137	61	208	224	213	Nil
Number inspected	137	61	208	224	213	Nil
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci :						
Whole carcase condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	14	Nil	1	Nil	6	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	10.22%	Nil	0.47%	Nil	3.28%	Nil
Tuberculosis only:						
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	5	1	Nil	Nil	1	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	3.65%	1.64%	Nil	Nil	0.46%	Nil
Cysticercosis:						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

EASTHAMPSTEAD RURAL DISTRICT

UNSOUND FOOD.

Meat.						
Home killed	...	...	...	...	...	652 lbs.
Imported	...	...	...	...	...	155 lbs.

Various Foodstuffs.						
Meat	...	...	...	...	...	37 tins 2 tins (4 lbs. each)
Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	36 tins 40 lbs.
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	11 tins
Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	21 tins
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	2 tins 42 lbs.
Chocolate	...	...	...	...	...	13 bars

FOOD POISONING.

Food Poisoning—Clostridium Welchii

An unusual and virulent outbreak of food poisoning occurred at a large institution in the area during July 1956. The infection affected some 84 women out of a total of some 200 women inmates and caused one death.

The food responsible for the development of the organism and infection of the patients, was cooked beef, eaten cold. A useful form of "control" was established when investigating the circumstances of the outbreak which led to the discovery that the method of cooking beef for the women inmates was not effective in destroying the organism. Briefly, the methods of cooking parts of the same fore-quarter of imported frozen beef supplied to both the men's and women's kitchens were:—

- (1) **Men's**—About 90–100 lbs. beef was roasted in a "draw-plate" oven for about two hours, removed, and cooled for two hours before being put into a refrigerator for 48 hours.

Note: A "draw-plate" oven, similar to a baker's oven, cooks at a temperature of 450°–500° F.

- (2) **Women's**—About 35–40 lbs. beef was cooked in a steam oven for two hours, transferred immediately to an electric oven to braise for one hour, thereafter it

EASTHAMPSTEAD RURAL DISTRICT

was cooled for about two hours—before being put into a refrigerator for 48 hours.

Note: A steam oven works at a pressure of about 2 lbs. per square inch which gives a temperature of 219.6°F. —the maximum working pressure of the oven is 5 lbs. per sq. ins., giving a temperature of 228°F. An electric oven used for braising, works at 450°F.—500°F. It should be noticed that the amount of heat used in the men's kitchen was much greater than in the women's and no infection occurred in men. Although there was not conclusive proof that *Clostridium Welchii* was rendered ineffective in the men's kitchen but survived in the women's, it was a reasonable comparison to make, and, advise that meat should not be cooked and eaten cold after being prepared in the way that it was in the women's kitchen.

RODENT CONTROL.

Total number of properties in Rural District	...	...	9,839
Total number of properties inspected:			
(a) Notification	...	...	494
(b) Survey or otherwise	...	...	1,097
		—	1,591
Number of properties inspected and found infested:			
(a) Rats	...	...	786
(b) Mice	...	...	829
		—	1,615
Number of infested properties treated by local authority			1,638

SWIMMING POOLS.

There is one privately owned pool open to public use in Bracknell. This pool has a complete filtration, chlorination and aeration plant, which keeps the water up to a high standard of purity.

There are three private pools belonging to schools in the district, two of which have continuous filtration with chlorination and the third receives only chlorine treatment.

Samples of water from all these pools are taken at least once each season and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination and report, so far with good results.

EASTHAMPSTEAD RURAL DISTRICT

ADMINISTRATION OF FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

1. INSPECTIONS MADE BY PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS.

<i>Premises</i> (1)	<i>M/c line No.</i> (2)	<i>Number on Register</i> (3)	<i>Number of</i>		
			<i>Inspections</i> (4)	<i>Written notices</i> (5)	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i> (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	1	18	24	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	2	84	49	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other Premises under the Act (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL		102	73	Nil	Nil

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	No. of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosec't'ns were instituted (7)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Insp'tor (5)			By H.M. Insp'tor (6)
Want of cleanliness ...	4	Nil	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	5	Nil	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable tempera- ture	6	Nil	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	7	Nil	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	8	Nil	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences			—			
(a) Insufficient ...	9	Nil	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	Nil	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	Nil	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not in cluding offences re- lating to Homework)	12	Nil	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	60	Nil	—	—	—	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

OUTWORKERS—SECTIONS 110 and 111.

Nature of Work	M/c line No.	Section 110			Section 111		
		No. of out-workers in August list req'd by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Wearing apparel : Making, etc. ...	13	14	—	—	—	Nil	Nil
TOTAL ...	70	14	—	—	—	Nil	Nil

R. H. HEBBRON,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

THE CLOSTRIDIUM WELCHII FOOD POISONING
INCIDENT OF JULY 2nd/3rd, 1956.

On Monday, July 2nd, at 12.45 p.m. about 200 patients partook of the following meal—Cold Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes, Bread, Pickles, Rice Pudding.

According to standard practice three members of the staff tasted portions of meat before it was served. These pieces, the size of a half crown and about $\frac{1}{4}$ in. thick, tasted quite satisfactory, but within 24 hours 71 patients and these three nurses developed diarrhoea and abdominal pain of varying degrees of severity. In most the illness was relatively mild, but one patient, aged 39 years, died in spite of Saline transfusion to replace the fluid loss.

A portion of the meat was retrieved from the waste bin, and on inspection it appeared satisfactory in appearance and smell. It was again thrown into the waste bin to be recovered later for bacteriological examination. This not unexpectedly revealed a very heavy and varied bacterial flora such as one might find in a waste food bin. Among these bacteria were a number of B haemolytic Clostridium Welchii such as are known to cause food poisoning outbreaks of this type. This organism is characterised by the high degree of resistance to heat possessed by its spored forms and by its ability to grow only in the absence of oxygen.

The post mortem examination of the fatal case revealed no anatomical evidence of constitutional weakness other than the changes in stomach and intestine associated with gastro-enteritis. Bacterial culture of the contents of the small intestine resulted in a practically pure growth of the B haemolytic *Clostridium Welchii* found in the meat. This organism had completely displaced the normal varied bacterial flora and was undoubtedly the cause of the gastro-enteritis.

Samples of faeces were collected from 69 patients between one and six days after the incident. From eleven of these B haemolytic *Clostridium Welchii* was isolated, usually in very large numbers. No other organism associated with food poisoning were found. A greater number of positive results might have been expected had the stools been collected during the attack and had the Laboratory been able to examine them fully immediately after receipt.

These bacteriological findings, together with the type of outbreak, make the cause of the incident B haemolytic *Clostridium Welchii* food poisoning from the meat eaten on Monday. This type of infection has only been recognised for a few years and is not yet fully understood, but it can be confidently asserted that it is not due to dirty habits or a carrier in the kitchen.

The details of preparation of the meat are of interest and clearly emphasise the dangers of steaming as against roasting.

The meat was part of a fore quarter of beef (137-8 lbs.) delivered on Monday, June 25th, and kept in the refrigerator until issued on the morning of Saturday, June 30th. 40lbs. went to the women's kitchen and 100lbs. to the men's kitchen. In both kitchens the meat was thawed out and then cooked, and after cooking allowed to cool for 2 hours before being placed in the refrigerator over the week-end. On Monday it was taken out just before lunch time and cut up before serving cold. The 100lbs. served to 800 men caused no illness, but the 40lbs. served to 200 women caused at least 71 cases of illness and one death.

On the women's side the meat had been steamed for two hours and then braised for one hour before cooling. This method of cooking has been previously used without ill effects. On the men's side the meat was roasted for two hours.

There can be no doubt that the *Clostridium Welchii* was present in insignificant numbers in the meat received from the butcher. (Hobbs found that 2.4% of 54 samples were so infected). Their presence must be accepted as a normal unavoidable risk for which no blame can be allotted.

Normally either the cooking process kills the organism or the food is eaten so soon after cooking that the germ cannot grow to a

EASTHAMPSTEAD RURAL DISTRICT

dangerous degree. Germs of this kind that survive the cooking may multiply very rapidly if cooling is delayed or prolonged, for the cooking drives off the oxygen, and makes the meat an ideal culture medium for these anaerobic organisms. Roasting produces essentially the same changes in the meat, but this usually results in a degree of heat sufficient to kill the bacterial spores.

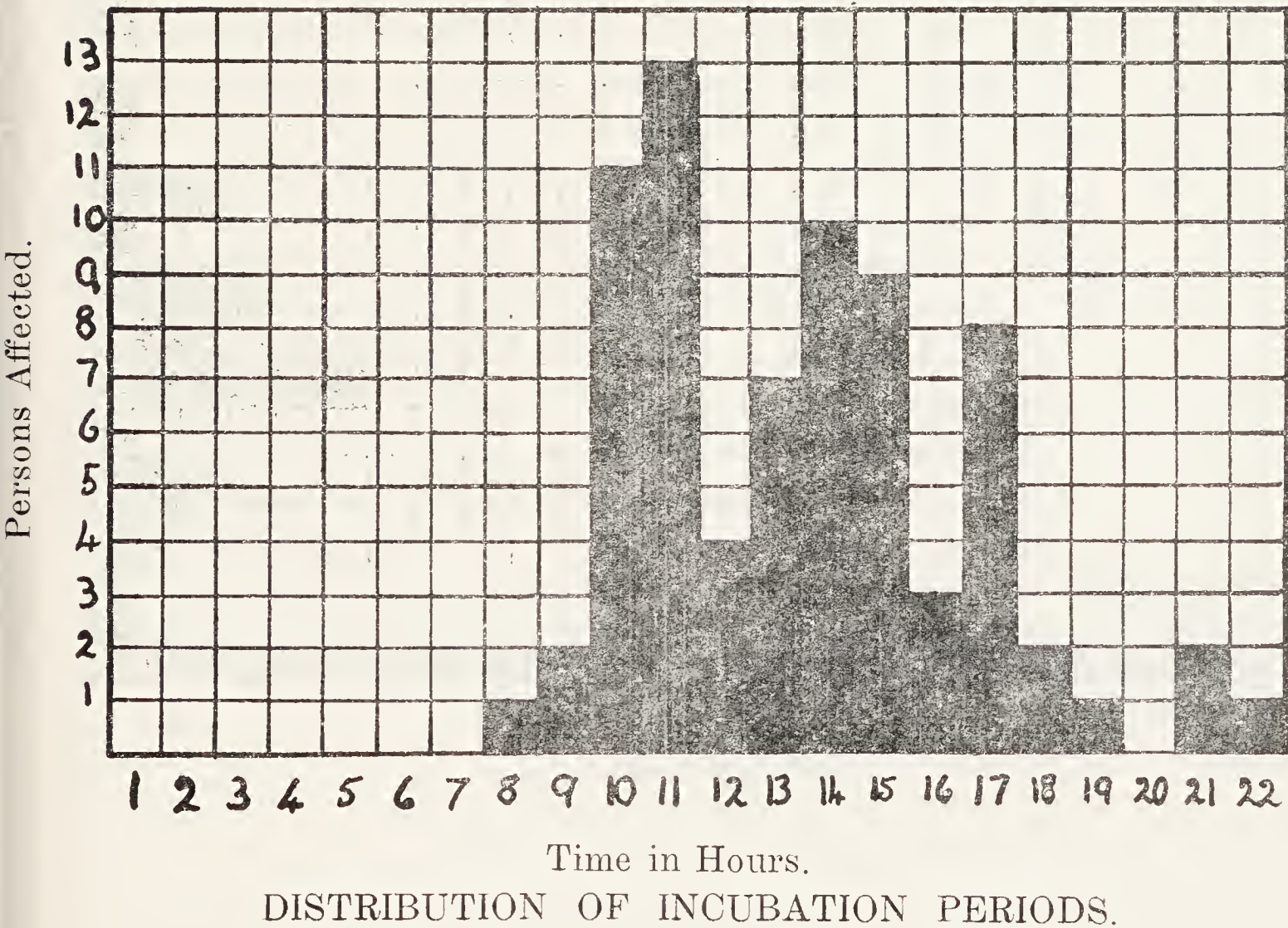
Incidents of this type can only be avoided by insisting that meat should be eaten within a few hours of cooking. The steaming of larger portions should be avoided and steps should be taken to ensure rapid thorough cooling by cutting into small pieces and directing a stream of cold air over the food after cooking.

The risk of this type of food poisoning seems to be highest with beef and pork. The source of the organisms in the meat is not yet clear, but there are no dangers if there are no opportunities for rapid growth after cooking. These opportunities come from the change in the nature of the meat induced by cooking and from the persistence of heat inside the piece after cooking.

At a later date spores of the strain of *Clostridium Welchii* isolated from this incident were shown to withstand continuous boiling for five hours.

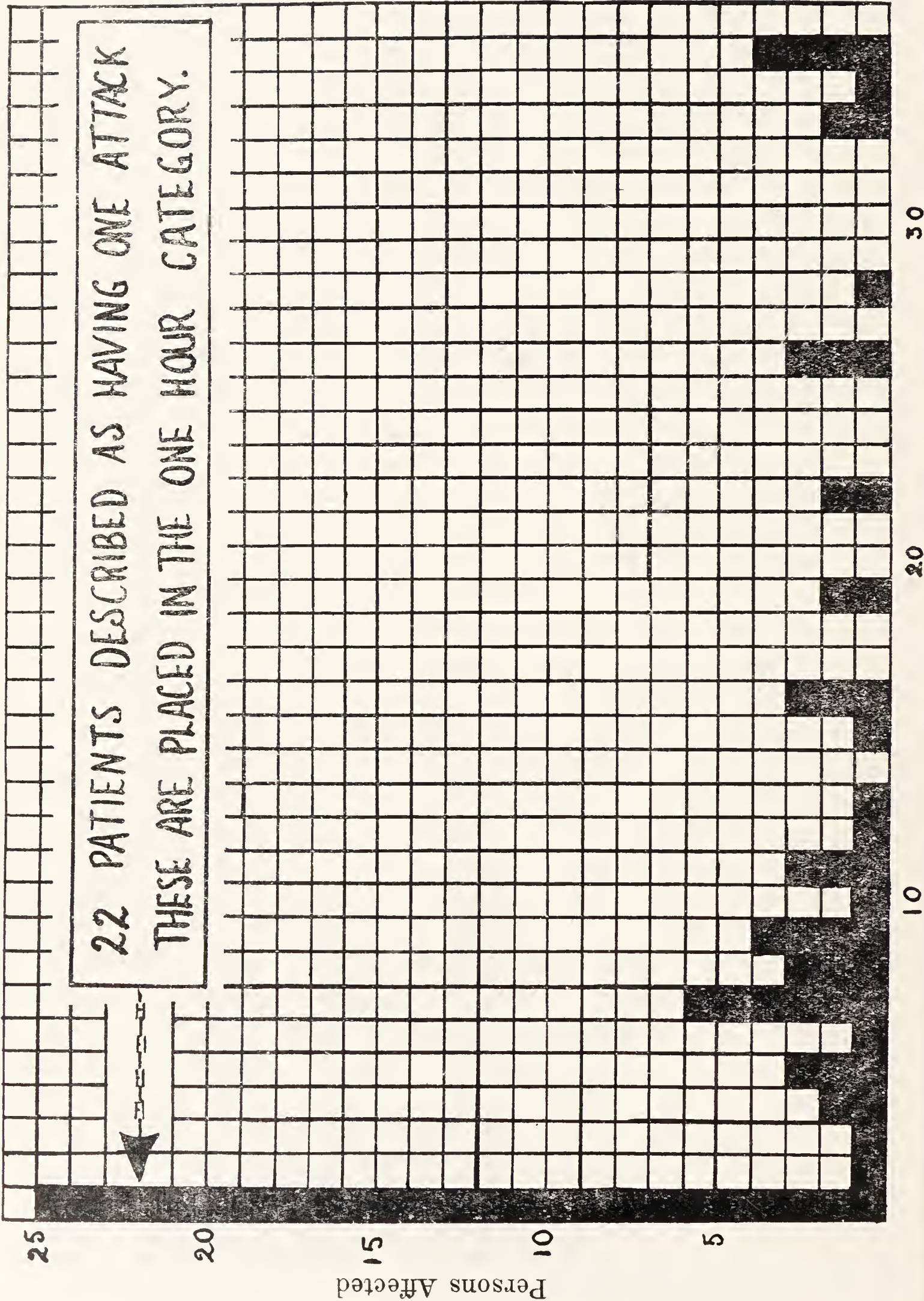
(Signed) NORMAN WOOD, M.D.
Director,
Public Health Laboratory,
Battie Hospital, Reading.

FOOD POISONING OUTBREAK, JULY 2-3, 1956.



FOOD POISONING OUTBREAK, JULY 2-3, 1956.

EASTHAMPSTEAD RURAL DISTRICT



Windsor Rural District.

STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	8,665
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Book at end of 1956	4,141
Rateable Value, 1st April 1957	£198,461
Product of a Penny Rate	£831
Population (estimated mid-year)	13,760
Live Birth Rate (actual) (per 1,000 population) ...	18.5
Live Birth Rate (corrected) (per 1,000 population) ...	17.2
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	0.5
Death Rate (actual) (per 1,000 population)	13.1
Death Rate (corrected) (per 1,000 population)	9.7
Infant Death Rate (per 1,000 live births)	11.7
Tuberculosis Death Rate (per 1,000 population):	
(a) Respiratory	0.14
(b) Other Forms	0.00
(c) All Forms	0.14
Typhoid Fever—Death Rate (per 1,000 population) ...	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	0.00
Whooping Cough—Death Rate (per (1,000 population)	0.00
Diphtheria—Death Rate (per 1,000 population) ...	0.00
Influenza—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	0.00
Acute Poliomyelitis & Polioencephalitis—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	0.00
Pneumonia—Death Rate (per 1,000 population) ...	0.29
Measles—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	0.00
Maternal Deaths	Nil.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year 234 children were immunised against Diphtheria for the first time. Twent-six children received re-inforcing injections.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS.

Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	59
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Acute Poliomyelitis :							
(a) Paralytic	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
(b) Non-Paralytic	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	7

NOTIFICATIONS OF TUBERCULOSIS (and ages).

Age Groups.				Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
				M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years	...	...		—	—	—	—
5-14 years	...	...	...	1	—	—	—
15-24 „	...	...	...	—	—	—	1
25-44 „	...	...	...	2	1	—	—
45-64 „	...	...	...	1	—	—	—
65 and over	...	...	...	1	1	—	—
Totals	...	...		5	2	—	1

WINDSOR RURAL DISTRICT

CAUSES OF DEATH IN WINDSOR RURAL DISTRICT, 1956.

CAUSES OF DEATH.					Male.	Female.
ALL CAUSES.					80	100
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	2	—
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—
5.	Whooping cough	...	...	...	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	...	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	—	2
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	1	1
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	3	1
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	—	3
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	—	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	4	8
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	—	1
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	1	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	16	29
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	13	7
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	—	4
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	11	13
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	5	10
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	—	—
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	3	1
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	8	2
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	1	3
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	3	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	—	—
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	—	—
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	—	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	1	1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	4	9
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	1	1
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	3	1
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	—	—
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	—	—

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

Summary of Sanitary Inspections and Notices served:

Number of Visits :

Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	110
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	...	70
Milk Supplies	...	...	...	...	...	54
Food Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	45
Food Premises	...	...	...	...	...	98
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	6
Itinerant Food Vendors	...	...	...	...	...	63
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	12
Public Houses	...	...	...	...	...	42
Moveable Dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	48
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	54
Miscellaneous Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	68

WINDSOR RURAL DISTRICT

NOTICES :

No. of informal notices served during the year	...	41
No. of formal notices served during the year	...	12
Work carried out by Local Authority in default	...	Nil.

FOOD INSPECTION.

The following tables show dairies registered (other than Dairy Farms) and their disposition, for the sale of raw and designated milk:—

	Total Licences Issued	T.T.	Licensed to Sell :		
			Accred- ited	Pasteur- ised	Sterilised
*Registered Dairies ...	4	—	—	—	—
Distributors of Milk ...	11	—	—	—	—
Licensed Dealer ...	13	5	—	5	3
Supplementary Licence Holders ...	12	5	—	5	2

* Included in "Distributors."

41 samples of milk were submitted for keeping quality and heat treatment tests during the year under review, and the results are shown in the following table. In cases of failing samples, repeat samples are taken and where the source of supply is known, appropriate notification is given to the Authority concerned. A special point is made of periodically sampling milk supplied to schools, and the results are notified to the County Medical Officer of Health. In all cases these have proved satisfactory during the year 1956.

	Pasteurised Ord.		Pasteurised T.T.		Sterilised	
	Satis- factory	Failed	Satis- factory	Failed	Satis- factory	Failed
Methylene Blue (Keeping quality) ...	15	—	11	—	—	—
Phosphatase (Heat treat- ment)	26	—	11	—	—	—
Turbidity Test	—	—	—	—	4	—

WINDSOR RURAL DISTRICT

Under the Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) (No. 2) Order, 1953, only Designated Milk may be sold in this district.

FOOD PREMISES.

There are 98 food premises in the District comprising:—

- 13 Butcher/Fishmongers.
- 5 Greengrocers.
- 32 Grocers and General Provisions.
- 7 Restaurants
- 3 Bakehouses.
- 4 Dairies.
- 34 Licensed premises.

152 visits and inspections were made during the year and particular attention was given to licensed premises, where works of improvement ranging from provision of new lavatories to the installation of hot water supplies to bars, were carried out in 12 instances.

Under Section 38 of the Shops Act 1950, the District Council have been delegated powers relating to Lighting; Washing facilities for Meals, in shops, Sec. 122 of the Berkshire County Council Act 1953, requiring the Registration of Hawkers of Food and their premises is also Administered by the Council.

During the year, a summary of the principal requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955 was circulated to Food Traders with a covering letter requesting their willing co-operation.

Unsound food is reported on elsewhere in this report. Boiler furnaces at two local hospitals are available for its disposal.

ICE CREAM.

There are no Ice Cream Manufacturers in this District but 35 premises are registered for the sale of this commodity in pre-packed form. Three registrations were effected during the year.

Seven samples of Ice Cream were taken during 1956 and the results, classified under the Provisional Grades, are as follows:—

No. of Grade 1 Samples	...	...	...	4
No. of Grade 2 Samples	...	...	...	3

Suppliers are duly notified of the results of the examination.

Nine Ice Cream Lollies were also submitted for examination in connection with a minor outbreak of Enteritis but no connection was established.

MEAT INSPECTION—SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Apart from the isolated "Cottager's Pig," no slaughtering of animals for human consumption occurred in the District during the year under review.

During 1954 Licences were issued in respect of 3 Slaughter-houses, only 2 of which were used during 1955, when 90% of the carcase meat from the animals killed was marketed in London and elsewhere.

UNSOUND FOOD.

The following articles of food have been examined, voluntarily surrendered and disposed of as being unfit for human consumption, during the year:—

Canned Products				Fresh and Cured Products			
Meat	...	...	2 tins.	Meat	...	...	350 lbs.
Fish	...	...	8 tins.	Fish	...	...	7 lbs.
Fruits	...	...	18 tins				
Vegetables	...	...	2 tins.				

The unfit canned foods were either "blown" or punctured tins.

One would suggest that there is less and less of this type of food stuff being found unfit, due doubtless to improved methods of treatment.

HAWKERS OF FOOD AND THEIR PREMISES.

As stated in the Report for 1954, Section 122 of the Berkshire County Council Act 1953, requires Local Authorities in the County to register all Hawkers of Food trading in their areas. No material change has taken place under this heading during the past year. The number of registrations stands at 31 and during 1956, large numbers attended again at the Ascot Race Meetings, where in some cases improvements, e.g.: coverings for food and more direct supplies of hot water, had been effected. One would again draw attention in the fact that registration of Food Hawkers can only be refused where the Local Authority are satisfied that the Public Health is or is likely to be endangered, which—in practice—leaves only minimum grounds for refusal.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Laboratory services for the bacteriological examination of specimens and samples of food and drink in connection with infectious diseases, or a potential source of such, are available at the Public Health Laboratory, Battle Hospital, Reading. A service which has proved most satisfactory.

Chemical analysis of water and sewage are carried out by Thos. McLellan & Partners, Reading.

WINDSOR RURAL DISTRICT

WATER SUPPLY.

The position as to water supply in this District generally is re-stated below.

The water supply for this District is controlled by the South West Suburban Water Co., Staines. It is drawn from the River Thames at Staines. The area of supply embraces approximately 100 square miles and a population of 198,000. The average daily quantity abstracted from the river is approximately 5 million gallons. In addition to this, a bulk supply is taken from the Metropolitan Water Board. The estimated average daily consumption per head of population is calculated by the Water Company to be 30 gallons for domestic purposes, and 40 gallons for all purposes, including Trading.

A piped supply exists throughout the District except at Friary Island in the Parish of Old Windsor, where shallow tube wells are in use at some 33 dwellings.

During the year under review, 5 Chemical and 6 Bacteriological samples were taken from the Public Supply and 37 Bacteriological samples from well supplies, 31 (including repeats) being from Friary Island. Eleven of these produced adverse reports, varying from "doubtful" to "heavily polluted," but eventually, after tube wells had been re-sited in two instances satisfactory results were obtained from repeat samples.

There is an urgent need, previously referred to, for a piped water supply on this island, and to this end, negotiations are in hand with the Rickmansworth Valley and Uxbridge Water Co., and Eton Rural District Council (in whose area part of the Island lies).

A typical analysis is appended of (a) raw river water and (b) treated water, as supplied to the public, by the South West Suburban Water Co.

A.—RAW WATER.

Chemical Results in Parts Per Million.

Appearance : Opalescent with light brown flocculent deposit.

Microscopic examination shows mineral and organic debris, diatoms, chlorophyceae protozoa.

Colour: filtered	...	...	...	20	Turbidity	...	...	...	...	40
pH	...	...	...	7.8	Odour	...	...	Slight earthy		
Electric Conductivity	...	...	...	510	Free Carbon Dioxide	...	...	...	...	5
Chlorine present as Chloride	...	...	...	34	Alkalinity as Calcium	...	...	...	...	200
					Total Solids	...	...	...	...	340
Hardness: Total	245.	Carbonate	200.		Non-Carbonate	45.				
Nitrate Nitrogen	...	...	...	4.0	Nitrite Nitrogen				approx.	0.01
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	...	...	...	0.025	Oxygen Absorbed	...	...	...	...	3.1
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	...	...	0.25	Residual Chlorine	...	...	...	...	—
Metals: Iron 0.5, other metals absent.										

WINDSOR RURAL DISTRICT

Bacteriological Results.

Number of Colonies developing on Agar	(1 day at 37°C (3,000 per ml.	2 days at 37°C 2,200 per ml.	3 days at 20°C 45,000 per ml.
Presumptive Coli- aerogenes Reaction	Present in 0.1 ml.	Absent from 0.01 ml.	Probable number 5,000 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli. (Type 1) ...	0.1 ml.	0.01 ml.	000 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction ...	1 ml.	0.1 ml.	

Intermediate Type II and Aerogenes Type 1.

This sample shows more than its usual degree of opalescence. The water has a reaction on the alkaline side of neutrality. It is free from metals apart from a trace of iron. It is hard in character but its hardness and its content of mineral and saline constituents in solution are not excessive. The organic and bacterial impurity are not unduly marked.

The water is considered amenable to the treatment which is in operation.

B.—WATER AFTER FILTRATION AND CHLORINATION.**Chemical Results in Parts per Million.**

Appearance: Bright with few mineral particles.

Colour Nil.	Turbidity less than 3
pH 7.4	Odour ... very faint chlorinous
Electric Conductivity 530	Free Carbon Dioxide 11
Chlorine present as Chloride 32	Total Solids 355
	Alkalinity as Calcium
	Carbonate 200
Hardness: Total 255. Carbonate 200.	Non-carbonate 55.
Nitrate Nitrogen 3.8	Nitrite Nitrogen absent
Ammoniacal Nitrogen 0.000	Oxygen Absorbed 0.90
Albuminoid Nitrogen 0.060	Residual Chlorine 0.04
Metals absent	

Bacteriological Results.

Number of Colonies developing on Agar	(1 day at 37°C 0 per ml.	2 days at 37°C 0 per ml.	3 days at 20°C 0 per ml.
Presumptive Coli- aerogenes Reaction	Present in —	Absent from 100 ml.	Probable number 0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli. (Type 1) ...	—	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction ...	—	100 ml.	

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, natural in reaction and free from metals. The water is hard in character but its hardness and its content of mineral and saline constituents in solution are not excessive. Its organic quality is very satisfactory and it conforms to the highest standard of bacterial purity.

WINDSOR RURAL DISTRICT

These results show effective treatment, and are indicative of a water which is pure and wholesome in character and suitable for public supply purposes.

SANITARY MATTERS REQUIRING ATTENTION

SEWERING OF EARLEYDENE ESTATE.

This matter has still not been resolved.

The Estate comprises 13 detached dwellings on approximately $1\frac{1}{2}$ acre plots, each having its own "septic tank" system of drainage. Most of the houses have been up for 15 years or more, and the systems, many in non-porous soil, become ponded, and overflow into roadside ditches or flood the adjoining land. In 1952 Sewerage Schemes were drawn up and estimates obtained by the Council, but consent to expenditure was not forthcoming. In the year under review, revised estimates were obtained, but again the matter was deferred on economy grounds. The schemes envisaged would allow for picking up a further 3 somewhat larger properties in the Bagshot Road.

SEWERAGE.

With the completion of a Sewerage Scheme for the Parish of Old Windsor in 1954, the whole district, as an area became sewered.

Some 26 existing properties (i.e. other than new development) in Old Windsor were connected to the new sewer during 1956, thereby completing with a few isolated exceptions, connection of properties to the new Scheme, which cost £203,374. The average daily flow in Old Windsor is now some 100,000 gallons.

In the parish of Sunninghill and Sunningdale most of the sewers have been laid for approximately 30 years, and in 1956 £700 was spent on the renewal of ventilating columns, which had rusted to a dangerous degree.

At page 71 of the Report for 1955 reference was made to the heavily increased flow in Sunninghill and Sunningdale, and to the fact that new Outfall Works were being considered. This position became increasingly acute, and the Council have again and again pressed for a Planning decision on this matter. Meanwhile although satisfactory effluents continue to be produced at the Whitmore Bog Outfall Works, the position is precarious, particularly in relation to sludge disposal.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

In May 1956 one 10 cub. yard Refuse Collection Vehicle was replaced by a Paxit II type rear loader (capacity approximately 18 cub. yards). Two 10 cub. yd. and one 18 cub. yarder are now employed with a complement of 12 men—for the 3 parishes.

Refuse Disposal in this district is by way of controlled tipping in scrub land (part bog) at South Ascot. Covering material is partly on site and partly imported. During 1956 a Fordson tractor, with Sutton hydraulic loader, was purchased for disposal work and is proving a good investment. The refuse collected in Old Windsor is conveyed to Egham for disposal by arrangement with the Egham U.D.C.. A weekly collection is in operation throughout the district, but this is frequently interrupted by difficulties in recruiting labour, for which the basic rates of pay are unrealistic. Further comment on this appeared at page 72 in the Report for 1955.

HOUSING — GENERAL.

NEW HOUSING.

During 1956, 112 permanent dwellings were completed by the Local Authority, and 288 by private enterprise. According to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government Returns more houses (in total) per 1,000 of population have been erected during post-war years in Windsor Rural District than in any other Local Authority area in Berkshire.

Fifty families were re-housed during the year from temporary hutments, and 28 from slum property.

SLUM CLEARANCE—5 YEAR PROGRAMME.

During 1956, 24 unfit dwellings were dealt with—16 in Clearance Areas, and 8 as individual unfits, and 14 of the families concerned were re-housed by the Local Authority.

During the first two years of the 5-year programme (1955-56) 68 unfit dwellings were formally reported to the Council. Of these, 25 were demolished, 17 closed (following Undertakings by owners), 3 were made fit by owners to the Council's satisfaction, 15 were confirmed in Clearance Areas, and 8 were in Clearance Areas awaiting confirmation at December 1956.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

Approval was given in 1956 to 21 applications for Improvement Grants totalling £4,853.

WINDSOR RURAL DISTRICT

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948.

1.—INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS.

<i>Premises</i> (1)	<i>M/c line No.</i> (2)	<i>Number on Register</i> (3)	<i>Number of</i>		
			<i>Inspections</i> (4)	<i>Written notices</i> (5)	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i> (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	1	8	4	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	2	43	28	3	—
(iii) Other Premises under the Act (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	3	—	—	—	—
TOTAL		51	32	3	—

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

<i>Particulars</i> (1)	<i>M/c line No.</i> (2)	<i>No. of cases in which defects were found.</i>				<i>Number of cases in which prosec't'ns were instituted</i> (7)
		<i>Found</i> (3)	<i>Remedied</i> (4)	<i>Referred To H.M. Insp'tor</i> (5)	<i>By H.M. Insp'tor</i> (6)	
Want of cleanliness ...	4	1	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding	5	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable tempera- ture	6	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	7	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	8	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences						
(a) Insufficient ...	9	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not in- cluding offences re- lating to Homework	12	2	2	—	—	—
TOTAL	60	3	3	—	—	—

WINDSOR RURAL DISTRICT

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111).

Nature of Work (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Section 110			Section 111		
		No. of out- workers in August list req'd by Sect. 110 (1) (c) (3)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (4)	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists (5)	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises (6)	Not- ices serv- ed (7)	Pro- secu- t'ns (8)
Wearing apparel : Making, etc. ...	13	3	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	70	3	—	—	—	—	—

W. H. ROWSELL.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Wokingham Rural District.

STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	40,828
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Book at end of 1956	...	...	...	...	...	10,864
Rateable Value, 1st April, 1957	...	...	...	...	...	£509,833
Product of a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	£1,970
Population (estimated mid-year)	...	...	...	...	...	42,770
Live Birth Rate (actual) (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	15.2
Live Birth Rate (corrected) (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	16.3
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.30
Death Rate (actual) (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	9.9
Death Rate (corrected) (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	10.2
Infant Death Rate (per 1,000 live births)	...	...	...	...	...	9.2
Tuberculosis Death Rate (per 1,000 population):						
(a) Respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	0.16
(b) Other Forms	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
(c) All Forms	...	...	...	...	...	0.16
Typhoid Fever—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Whooping Cough—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Diphtheria—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Influenza—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.05
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Pneumonia—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.53
Measles—Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Maternal Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year 570 children were immunised against Diphtheria for the first time. One hundred and thirty-two children received re-inforcing injections.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS.

Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	46
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Acute Poliomyelitis :							
(a) Paralytic	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
(b) Non-Paralytic	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	0

NOTIFICATIONS OF TUBERCULOSIS (and ages).

Age Groups.				Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
				M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
5-14 years	...	...	...	1	—	1	—
15-24 „	...	...	...	3	2	—	—
25-44 „	...	...	...	7	4	—	—
45-64 „	...	...	...	7	1	—	—
65 and over	...	...	...	—	—	1	—
Totals	...	...	...	18	7	2	—

WOKINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT

CAUSES OF DEATH IN WOKINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT, 1956.

CAUSES OF DEATH.					Male.	Female.
ALL CAUSES.					216	206
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	5	2
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	—	1
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—
5.	Whooping cough	...	...	...	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	...	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	1	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	6	3
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	11	3
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	—	5
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	—	8
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	19	25
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	1	2
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	—	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	35	35
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	36	14
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	4	1
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	25	39
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	14	15
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	2	—
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	9	14
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	5	4
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	3	3
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	6	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	—	—
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	1	2
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	2	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	2	—
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	22	20
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	3	2
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	2	4
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	2	2
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	—	—

REPORT OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER.

WATER SUPPLY.

The demand for water continues to increase and 480,724,000 gallons were supplied during the year. Mileage of mains is 143.73, 1.56 miles more than last year, and 494 new connections have been made.

No major schemes have been carried out and main extensions executed have been entirely those required for new housing development.

The Council's sources and means of supply continue to be barely adequate to meet peak demands, but for various reasons it has not been practicable to undertake the development of the new source of supply at Charville referred to in the report for 1955.

ANALYSES OF WATER.

Sample of water from Sheeplands pumping station.

(a) Physical Examination:

Temperature at source					
Colour	...	...	...	...	Normal
Appearance	...	...	...	...	Bright
Taste	...	...	...	...	Satisfactory
Smell	...	...	...	...	Odourless

(b) General Chemical Examination:

Reaction, pH	...	...	7.3
Free Carbon Dioxide	...		11 parts per million.
Ammoniacal Nitrogen,			
as N	...	...	absent
Albuminoid Nitrogen,			
as N	...	...	absent
Nitrous Nitrogen, as N	...		absent
Nitric Nitrogen, as N	...		8.25 parts per million
Hardness (Versenate			
method):			
Temporary, as CaCO ₃			235 parts per million
Permanent	...	...	80 parts per million
Permanganate			
(4hrs. 80°F)			.2 parts per million
Alkalinity, as CaCO ₃	...		260 parts per million
Total Solids	...	...	485 parts per million

(c) Mineral Analysis:

Calcium, as Ca	...	...	125.6 parts per million
Magnesium, as Mg	...		0.5 parts per million
Sodium, as Na	...	...	26.2 parts per million
Carbonate, as CO ₃	...		204.5 parts per million
Chloride, as Cl	...	...	14.5 parts per million
Sulphate, as SO ₄	...	...	32.6 parts per million
Nitrate, as NO ₃	...		36.8 parts per million
Iron	...	...	absent
Fluoride, as F	...	...	0.12 parts per million

WOKINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT

Sample of untreated water from Arborfield Filtration Station.

(a) Physical Examination:

Temperature at source					
Colour	...	...	...	...	Normal
Appearance	...	...	...	...	Bright
Taste	...	...	...	...	Satisfactory
Smell	...	...	...	...	Colourless

(b) General Chemical Examination:

Reaction, pH	...	...	7.7
Free Carbon Dioxide	...	...	5.0 parts per million
Ammoniacal Nitrogen, as N	...	...	0.78 parts per million
Albuminoid Nitrogen, as N	...	...	0.02 parts per million
Nitric Nitrogen, as N	...	...	absent
Nitrous Nitrogen, as N	...	...	0.37 parts per million
Hardness (versenate method)			
Temporary, as CaCO ₃			145 parts per million
Permanent	...	...	95 parts per million
Permanganate (4hrs. 80°F)			0.267 parts per million
Alkalinity, as CaCO ₃	...	...	250 parts per million
Total Solids	...	...	415 parts per million

(c) Mineral Analysis:

Calcium, as Ca	...	...	51.2 parts per million
Magnesium, as Mg	...	...	24.0 parts per million
Sodium, as Na	...	...	50.0 parts per million
Carbonate, as CO ₃	...	...	209.8 parts per million
Chloride, as Cl	...	...	20.5 parts per million
Sulphate, as SO ₄	...	...	42.2 parts per million
Nitrate, as NO ₃	...	...	1.77 parts per million
Iron	...	...	absent
Fluoride, as F	...	...	0.14 parts per million

Sample of water from Arborfield Filtration Station (Filtered and Chlorinated):

(a) Physical Examination:

Temperature at source					
Colour	...	...	...	...	Normal
Appearance	...	...	...	...	Bright
Taste	...	...	...	...	Satisfactory
Smell	...	...	...	...	Odourless

(b) General Chemical Examination:

Reaction, pH	...	7.9
Free Carbon Dioxide	...	3.0 parts per million
Ammoniacal Nitrogen, as N	...	0.38 parts per million
Albuminoid Nitrogen, as N	...	absent
Nitrous Nitrogen, as N	...	trace
Nitric Nitrogen, as N	...	0.5 parts per million
Hardness (Versenate method):		
Temporary, as CaCO ₃		130 parts per million
Permanent	...	100 parts per million
Permanaganate (4hrs. 80°F)		0.233 parts per million
Alkalinity, as CaCO ₃	...	270 parts per million
Total Solids	...	415 parts per million

(c) Mineral Analysis:

Calcium, as Ca	...	52.8 parts per million
Magnesium, as Mg	...	24.0 parts per million
Sodium, as Na	...	46.0 parts per million
Carbonate, as CO ₃	...	199.2 parts per million
Chloride, as Cl	...	28.5 parts per million
Sulphate, as SO ₄	...	43.5 parts per million
Nitrate, as NO ₃	...	2.2 parts per million
Iron	...	absent
Fluoride, as F	...	0.15 parts per million

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The year has been marked by further progress in the provision of main drainage. The scheme for Loddon Bridge Road area and Reading Road, Woodley, is now practically complete. Sewers have also been taken over from the Contractors in Earley, Woodley and Winnersh for most of the length of the Reading-Wokingham Road from Winnersh Cross Roads to Salcombe Drive. The flow of sewage to King Street Lane Sewage Works, Winnersh, has been diverted to the new sewerage system and arrangements to demolish this Works are now in hand.

It is satisfactory to be able to report that the first stage of the main drainage scheme for the Parish of Shinfield has been commenced. A pumping station and sewers in the vicinity of School Green are under construction. A scheme for the sewerage of Whitley Wood and Shinfield Road is also being prepared for submission to the Ministry.

WOKINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT

The Marsh Farm Sewage Disposal Works second contract was completed during the year and these Works are now in full operation.

The placing of a contract for the Wargrave Sewerage Reconstruction Scheme is being actively pursued, and work on this scheme is expected to commence next summer.

The Council has approved the extension of sewers laid by Estate Developers in Butts Hill Road, Woodley, to serve the remainder of this road up to the railway and the preparation of this scheme is in hand.

The construction of a sewage disposal site to replace the Sewage Works at Hare Hatch constructed by Military Authorities during the War on Messrs. Waterer Sons and Crisp Ltd.'s land, was commenced and the existing works are expected to be demolished and removed early next year.

G. S. DANIELL,
Chief Engineer.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

WET SCAVENGING.

(a) COLLECTION.

At the end of 1956 the cesspool emptying fleet had been reduced to seven vehicles, five of which being diesel operated.

The effect of main drainage upon cesspool emptying in the Parish of Woodley was most marked, but there is a growing tendency for development in the more rural parts of the area to cause an increased call upon the cesspool emptying fleet. Last year cesspool emptiers were used on a payment basis for the removal of trade effluent from two large factories in the area.

(b) DISPOSAL.

The following table shows the disposal of sewage from cesspools at the various sites in the Rural District.

Site	1955/56	1956/57
Gipsy Lane	3,848,475	4,232,875
Colemansmoor	1,791,125	1,148,125
Winnersh Farm	1,742,900	1,967,650
Twyford	1,543,175	1,686,050
Wokingham Borough		
Sewers	534,950	842,300
Fields	6,278,975)	5,035,050
Farley Hill ... ..	)	287,500
	<hr/> 15,739,600 <hr/>	<hr/> 15,199,550 <hr/>

It will be seen from the above that the use of Gipsy Lane has increased but this, with the main drainage now becoming available in Earley, will be somewhat reduced next year. I have no doubt that the site will continue to function satisfactorily for an amount of four million gallons per annum for some years to come.

The reduction in the amount brought into Colemansmoor is most satisfactory and has considerably reduced the problems at this site.

It will be seen that fields have been used, even during the bad summer, with very good effect, and this is a considerable saving both in labour and money from the Council's view point, although it is becoming increasingly difficult to find new sites.

DRY SCAVENGING.

(a) COLLECTION.

The service has been maintained as a weekly kerb side collection throughout the area. The growth of the district particularly in the Parishes of Earley and Woodley has continued and has given rise to a certain amount of dislocation in collection times. The seventh refuse collecting vehicle was put into operation towards the end of the year.

(b) DISPOSAL.

The following table shows the disposal of refuse at the various sites used during the last year compared with the previous year.

Site	1955/56 Yards	1956/57 Yards
Watmore Lane Depot ...	2,840	6,563
Twyford Recreation Field	22,665	13,012
Woodley Aerodrome Site ...	14,414	28,138
Ham River Site	—	834
School Green	2,930	—
	<hr/> 42,849 <hr/>	<hr/> 48,547 <hr/>

It will be noted that a start has been made at Ham River where, although the whole of the water has not been drained out of the pits, it has been possible to tip adjoining Java Cottage in order to provide a suitable space for the erection of sheds, etc.

The tip at Twyford will be completed within a month or so and the whole of the Council's tipping arrangements will thus be concentrated at Woodley which is a reasonably central site for the district as a whole, bearing in mind that it is far more economical to dispose at one site with mechanical means than to use a number of sites in order to cut down vehicle mileage.

The use of a bulldozer has enabled proper control to be maintained at all the sites and this is illustrated by the fact that no complaints have arisen and the use of insecticide or of dressings were again not necessary during the year.

SALVAGE DISPOSAL.

The trade in waste paper has again been very difficult during the year. In an attempt to stabilise the price of the material a quota system has been introduced and a guaranteed price of £6. 10. 0d. fixed.

The value and demand for all types of scrap iron has increased during the past year. The results of the year's working are shown below, out of which a bonus of £169 was paid to the employees.

Material	Waste Paper	Newspaper	Pamphlets	Cardboard	Iron	Tins	Rags	Non- Ferrous
	t. c. q.	t. c. q.	t. c. q.	t. c. q.	t. c. q.	t. c. q.	t. c. q.	
Amount Collected ...	148 3 1	40 2 2	26 9 0	10 2 0	40 16 3	40 3 0	£3 6 2	2 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwts.
Value of above ...	£1051 11 2	£331 19 6	£211 12 0	£85 17 6	£196 16 4	£189 19 6	75 19 0	£2 18 9
Price per Ton ...	7 1 11	£8 5 6	£8 0 0	£8 10 0	£4 16 5	£4 14 2	£22 16 10	£21 1 10
Target ...	142 10 0	20 2 0	20 2 0		24 2 0	20 2 0	8 12 0	10cwts.
Excess or below target ...	+5 13 1	+20 0 2	+6 7 0	6 0 0	+16 14 3	+20 1 0	-5 5 2	- 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwts.
Value of Excess, etc.	£40 3 9	£165 13 6	£50 16 0	£34 17 3	£80 13 4	£94 7 5	-120 9 10	-£7 12 11

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTIONS.

LISTS OF VISITS MADE.

WATER SUPPLY :

Water Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Water Samples	...	...	...	...	...	...	28

FACTORIES ACT :

With Mechanical Power	...	...	...	...	...	45
Without Mechanical Power	...	...	...	...	...	6

FOOD INSPECTION :

Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	86
Canteens and Restaurants	...	...	...	...	...	...	162
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Food Stalls	...	...	...	...	...	...	98
Other Food Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	307

INFECTIOUS DISEASE, PUBLIC HEALTH ACT :

Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	134
Disinfection	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	200
Re-inspection	...	...	...	...	...	...	225
Verminous Houses Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Disinfestations	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	780
Smoke Tests	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Colour Tests	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Moveable Dwelling	...	...	...	...	...	...	808
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	329
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	237
Public Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	64

HOUSING ACT :

Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	149
Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	366
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	20

RODENT CONTROL :

Complaints received	...	...	...	...	...	...	191
Premises Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,509
Premises Re-inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,044
Premises found infested	...	...	...	...	...	...	513
Premises cleared	...	...	...	...	...	...	492

WOKINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT

NOTICES.

No. of informal notices served during the year	...	...	148
No. of notices outstanding from 1956	...	...	30
No. of informal notices complied with during the year	...	...	148
No. of formal notices served during the year	...	...	2
No. of formal notices complied with during the year	...	...	1
No. of informal notices outstanding at the end of the year	...	...	30
Work carried out by the Local Authority in default	...	...	1
No. of formal notices outstanding at the end of the year	...	...	1

HOUSING.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

Position at 31st December, 1956.			Present Building Programme.			
	Pre- 1939	Built 1914	Com- pleted Post-War	Under Construc- tion.	Approved	Total
Arborfield	38	2	42	—	—	82
Barkham ..	8	—	14	—	—	22
Earley .. .	4	—	49	—	—	53
Finchamp- stead	25	—	42	—	—	67
Hurst	22	—	26	—	—	48
Remenham	—	—	8	—	—	8
Ruscombe ..	32	—	77	—	—	109
Shinfield .	56	—	246	—	—	302
Sonning ..	34	—	16	—	—	50
Swallowfield	40	2	19	—	—	61
Twyford ..	36	—	64	—	—	100
Wargrave ..	46	—	112	—	4	162
Winnersh ..	18	—	40	—	—	58
Wokingham						
Without	15	2	42	10*	21	90
Woodley ..	26	2	114	113	184	439
	400	8	911	123	209	1,651

* 10 Cottages purchased by the Council for modernisation.

PRIVATE HOUSING STATISTICS.

The Council's Surveyor, Mr. G. R. Tween, A.R.I.C.S., reports that:—

Total number of plans submitted for consideration during the year	...	...	...	...	...	1,142
Number of plans rejected under the Public Health Act 1936, and Town and Country Planning Act, 1947	...	...	...	...	...	168
Number of dwellings completed by private enterprise	...	...	...	...	...	504

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:

(a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	149
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	366

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

There are no sites owned by the District Council in this area.

There are however a number of privately controlled sites containing 133 caravans which are subject to Public Health licences and planning approval. In addition the number of individual licences issued during the year was 189 and in all 804 visits were made.

The supervision and licensing procedure occupies a considerable amount of the District Inspector's time and there is no reason to think that the problem is growing less.

During the year 4 planning appeals were heard under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947.

FOOD PREMISES

Number of Food Premises, by type of business in district at end of year.

Type of Business.	Number
Number of Provision Shops (General)	86
Number of Greengrocers' Shops	8
Number of Butchers' Shops	17
Number of Bakehouses	11
Number of Cake Shops	11
Number of Sweet Shops	19
Number of Fishmongers	2
Number of Fried Fish Shops	1
Number of Industrial Canteens	6
Number of School Canteens	21
Number of Cafes and Snack Bars	32
Number of Licensed Houses	70
Number of Halls and Clubs	22
Number of Dairies	8

WOKINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT

Number of Inspections :—

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Canteens and Restaurants	...	...	...	...	...	...	162
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	86
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Other Food Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	307

ICE CREAM.

Number of premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955 for the sale only of ice cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	70
Number of Dairies registered	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY.

In connection with the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955–56 a lecture, film and practical demonstration was given in July and was attended by over 50 food handlers from the area. This was arranged in conjunction with the Central Council for Health Education and was held at the Earley Generating Station of the Southern Electricity Board.

The general standard of hygiene shows marked improvement in the district generally, particularly in those areas where main drainage has been afforded in recent months.

UNSOUND FOOD.

MEAT :

New Zealand Lamb	...	...	...	...	...	...	14½ lbs.
13 Sheep Livers	...	...	...	...	...	...	23 lbs.
Pigs' Legs	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 lbs.
Salted Beef	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 lbs.
Bacon	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 lbs.

FISH :

Plaice	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 lbs.
Dover Soles	...	...	...	...	...	...	5 lbs.
Cod Fillets	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 lbs.
Skate	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 lbs.
Scallops	...	...	...	...	...	...	Two dozen.

TIN FOODS :

Meat	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 tins
Peaches	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 tins

WOKINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT

Pears	...	...	...	...	...	...	5 tins
Plums	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 tins
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 tins
Grapefruit	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 tins
Oranges	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 tins
Peas	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 tins
Apricots	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 tins
Beans	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 tins
Cherries	...	...	...	...	...	...	5 tins
Tomatoes	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 tins
Soup	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 tins
Carrots	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 tins
Various	...	...	...	...	...	...	5 tins

OTHER FOODSTUFFS:

Jam	...	...	...	...	...	6 Pots
Gravy Powders	...	...	...	...	...	26 Pkts.
Potatoes	...	...	...	...	...	4 cwt. 28 lbs.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Number of visits to slaughterhouses ... 237

Animals inspected :

Pigs	...	...	...	...	...	647
Sheep	...	...	...	...	...	163
Calves	...	...	...	...	...	92

Certification of pigs under Ministry of Food and Fat
 Stock Guarantee Scheme at Deadweight Centre
 Nos. 8661 8662 ... 294

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	Nil	Nil	92	163	647	Nil
Number inspected	Nil	Nil	92	163	647	Nil
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:						
Whole carcases condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	4	Nil
Percentage of the number in- specte affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	Nil	Nil	Nil	1.1	6	Nil
Tuberculosis Only:						
Whole carcases condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	Nil
Percentage of the number inspect- ed affected with tuberculosis ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	3	Nil
Cysticercosis:...						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

WOKINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948.

1. INSPECTIONS MADE BY PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS.

<i>Premises</i> (1)	<i>M/c line No.</i> (2)	<i>Number on Register</i> (3)	<i>Number of</i>		
			<i>Inspections</i> (4)	<i>Written notices</i> (5)	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i> (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	1	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	2	8	4	—	—
(iii) Other Premises under the Act (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	3	91	22	4	—
TOTAL		99	26	4	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	No. of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosec't'ns were instituted (7)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred		
				To H.M. Insp'tor (5)	By H.M. Insp'tor (6)	
Want of cleanliness ...	4	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	5	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable tempera- ture	6	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	7	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	8	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences						
(a) Insufficient ...	9	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not in cluding offences re- lating to Homework	12	13	13	—	—	—
TOTAL	60	13	13	—	—	—

WOKINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

OUTWORKERS—SECTIONS 110 and 111.

<i>Nature of Work</i>	<i>M/c line No.</i>	<i>Section 110</i>			<i>Section 111</i>		
		<i>No. of out- workers in August list req'd by Sect. 110 (1) (c)</i>	<i>No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council</i>	<i>No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists</i>	<i>No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises</i>	<i>Not- ices serv- ed</i>	<i>Pro- secu- t'ns</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Wearing apparel : Making, etc. ...	13	12	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	70	12	—	—	—	—	—

D. EVANS,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

